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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

2099 UNLIMITED

LOOK WHO'S BACK!
HULK 2099!



BIRCH
DIRECT EDITION



7 59606 02354 7

00211

IT TOOK 'EM FIFTY
YEARS TO BUILD IT.

ANOTHER FIFTY
TO LET IT ROT.

IT STARTED AS SEPARATE PIECES
ALL OVER THE SAN FERNANDO
VALLEY IN THE DYING DAYS OF
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

THEN THEY STARTED LINKING 'EM
UP, TOWN BY TOWN, TO MAKE IT
THE BIGGEST EVER.

A MONUMENT TO EVERYTHING
THIS COUNTRY CAN'T AFFORD
ANYMORE.

A PUS-BLISTER ON THE
INFECTED SKIN OF
CALIFORNIA.

THE
BIGGEST
MALL
EVER MADE.

I'M STUCK
IN IT.

BUT THIS AIN'T NO
SHOPPING TRIP.

STAN LEE
PRESENTS

HULK
2099

THIRTY MILE
MALL

GERARD JONES • **DWAYNE TURNER**
WRITER PENCILER

TURNER & KYLE BAKER • **STARKINGS**
INKERS LETTERER

TOM SMITH • **JOEY CAVALIERI** • **TOM DEFALCO**
COLORIST EDITOR LEADER

THIS PART'S BEEN
ABANDONED FOR
DECADES. THE
MALL-TROLLS
HAVE CUSTOMIZED
IT TO THEIR NEEDS.

BUILT AN ARSENAL
FROM A KITCHEN
STORE AND A
HARDWARE STORE.
ENOUGH TO KEEP
VISITORS OUT.

NNNNNO
ONNNNNNE
GOESSSS!

BUT THIS VISITOR
ISN'T GONNA BE KEPT
OUT BY MEAT CLEAVERS
AND SHOVELS.

NOTHING'S KEEPING
ME OUT.

NOT EVEN MY
SUPPOSED
HELPER.

KI-HIIIIII
GI-HRRRIIIII!

CHOK

HULK!
GET US OUT
OF HERE!

I'M RUNNING OUT
OF SHOES! AND I
DON'T WANT TO
WASTE THESE VINTAGE,
1993 DOC MARTENS
ON A BUNCH
OF FREAKIN'
TROLLS!

HER NAME'S
QUIRK. SHE'S
A SINGER.

SHE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE. THIS IS MY HUNT -- FOR A KID NAMED GAWAIN WHO FELL INTO THE HANDS OF SWEET DREAMS SECURITY.

BECAUSE OF ME.

I'D SQUEEZED MYSELF INTO THE SQUISHY LITTLE PINK BODY THAT MAKES ME SICK. THE BODY THAT USED TO BE ME.

SO I DUG THROUGH THE ELECTRONIC GARBAGE HEAP OF CIVILIZATION, THROUGH THE STINK OF SWEET DREAMS' DATA-BANKS...

...AND FOUND IT. "TEENAGE MALE ARZESTEE TRANSFERRED FOR HOLDING."

TIME TO GET OUT OF MY HOLLYWOOD CAGE, TIME TO STOP PRETENDING.

I MOVED FAST. TOO FAST.

WHOA! KEISHA!

JOHN! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MISS THAT MEETING! AUDRA'S GOING TO BE ZAPPING IN!

SORRY. I'VE GOT PERSONAL BUSINESS.

AUDRA WANTS US TO DEVELOP A STORY AROUND THIS BIG GREEN MONSTER THAT BLITZED A SWEET DREAMS PLATOON THE OTHER DAY.

THE BIG GREEN MONSTER... WILL JUST HAVE TO GET BY WITHOUT ME.

MMM. AND MAYBE WE'LL ALL BE GETTING BY WITH-OUT YOU SOON, JOHN.

WOULDN'T I BE JUST HEART-BROKEN, DEAR FRIEND, IF YOUR JOB SUDDENLY BECAME OPEN?

MAYBE I'LL TAP INTO YOUR COMPUTER, AND SEE JUST WHAT YOUR "PERSONAL BUSINESS" IS.

ANOTHER DELAY -- MY OWN MAKING. I LET QUIRK STAY IN MY APARTMENT AFTER I SAVED HER FROM SWEET DREAMS. TODAY WAS THE DAY I WAS SUPPOSED TO HELP HER RELOCATE.

I TOLD HER I MIGHT BE GONE AWHILE.

AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF PEOPLE DISCOVERING I'M HERE?

I'M A HOLLYWOOD VIRTUAL-REALITY EXEC. MEN IN MY POSITION ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A HOT LITTLE NUMBER STASHED SOMEWHERE.

"HOT LITTLE NUMBER," HUH? THANKS FOR VALIDATING MY EXISTENCE, PAL.

LOOK, DON'T GET ANY IDEAS, OKAY? JUST BECAUSE THAT UGLY GREEN GUY SAID YOU'D TAKE CARE OF ME --

I'VE GOT NO IDEAS EXCEPT WHAT THE "UGLY GREEN GUY" TOLD ME. I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT OUT. BUT THERE'S A TEENAGE BOY WHO NEEDS ME OUT THERE, AND --

A TEENAGE BOY, HMM...? NO WONDER YOU'RE NOT GETTING IDEAS ABOUT ME!

VERY WITTY.

HE'S ANOTHER SWEET DREAMS VICTIM. MAYBE IF YOU WEREN'T SO INVOLVED IN YOURSELF, THAT WOULD MATTER TO YOU.

I THOUGHT THAT WOULD STIFLE HER. I HAD THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT QUIRK.

HEY!

HEY!

I AM INVOLVED IN MYSELF -- BECAUSE MYSELF IS ALL I'VE HAD, MOST OF MY LIFE.

BUT IF SOMEBODY'S IN TROUBLE... I WANT TO HELP.

I DIDN'T WANT TO BRING ANYBODY ELSE INTO THIS. BUT I KNEW I COULD USE HER.

I KNOW THE WEAKNESSES OF THE LITTLE PINK BEASTS BELOW ME. WASN'T LONG AGO, I WAS ONE OF THEM.

WE FOLLOWED THE MALL THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE VALLEY, TO THE NORTH END -- THE UPSCALE END -- THAT'S STILL GOING STRONG.

THE KID'S TRAIL LED TO SWEAT-TECH...

"... A 'VIRTUAL REALITY SPORTS CENTER.'"

SWEAT TECH

A GREAT WAY TO ACT LIKE A MAN WITHOUT GETTING HURT.

WHERE FLABBY, OVERAGE BOYS BATTLE NEURONICALLY IN THE BASEBALL AND FOOTBALL GAMES OF THE PAST.

I KNOW THEIR KIND. PLAYING THEIR SAFE GAMES AND WISHING FOR THE DAYS WHEN MIDDLE-CLASS WHITE GUYS RAN THE WORLD.

A GREAT WAY FOR CIVILIZATION TO CHANNEL ALL THAT TESTOSTERONE WHERE IT CAN'T SHAKE ANYTHING UP.

THEY DON'T LIKE STRONG WOMEN.

OR THE NEW BREED OF AMERICAN, MADE UP OF MORE RACES THAN THE GRAND PRIX.

SOON AS QUIRK SAID SHE WANTED TO SPOKESMODEL THEIR BUSINESS, THEY WERE SPILLING THEIR CORPORATE SECRETS ALL OVER HER.

AND WHEN I SAID I WAS HER AGENT, NOT HER BOYFRIEND, THEY SUDDENLY LOVED ME.

BUT TOSS A CUTE, DARK GIRL INTO THE PACK AND THEY FIGHT OVER HER. IT'S A TURF THING.

THRILLED TO TELL ME ANYTHING I WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THEIR ASSETS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS.

LIKE THEIR WORK ON ENHANCING HUMAN STRENGTH, SPEED AND STAMINA. FUNNY FOR A COMPANY THAT SUPPOSEDLY JUST DID "VIRTUALS."

AND THE LEASES THEY HELD ON THE FAR END OF THE MALL, WHERE NOBODY'D GONE IN YEARS.

AND THE RADIOACTIVE FUEL AND THE EXPLOSIVES THEY'D BEEN INVESTING IN.

HOW WOULD THEY USE THEM IN AN ELECTRONIC REMAKE OF SUPERBOWL XXIII?

I DIDN'T ASK. I JUST CHECKED THEIR SUPPLIERS' NAMES.

FIGURED WITH ENOUGH NAMES, EVEN AN AMATEUR LIKE ME COULD CRACK THEIR DATABASE AND TRACK DOWN THE KID.

TURNS OUT I DIDN'T HAVE TO.

MURDERER!

GAWAIN.

MURDERER!
I HEARD YOUR VOICE AND I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT!

HOLD HIM!

MURDERER!

ARE YOU COMING TO KILL ME NOW?
LIKE YOU KILLED ALL THE OTHERS?

LISTEN TO ME, KID!
I CAN HELP YOU!

MURDERER!

GET THE BOY OUT OF HERE!

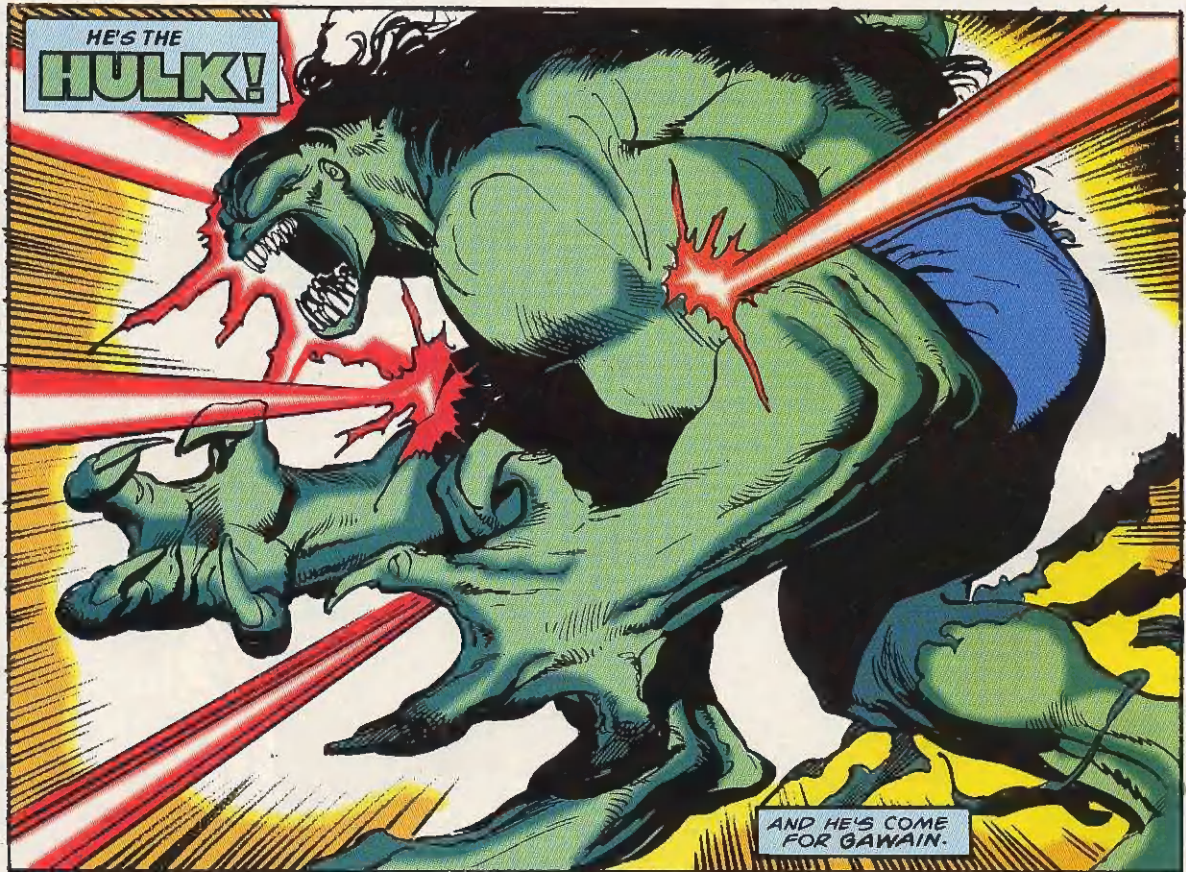
KILL THIS GUY!
HE'S A SPY!

BUT HE'S...
HE'S...
HE'S...

HE'S NOT JUST A GUY!

CH POW
POW POW

HE'S THE
HULK!



AND HE'S COME
FOR GAWAIN.

HEY! YOU ARE
THE UGLY
GREEN
GUY!

CHPOW

YAAAAH!!

GET HIM IN
THE BULLET-
CAR!



LET
HIM
GO!

LORD,
WHAT
ARE
YOU?

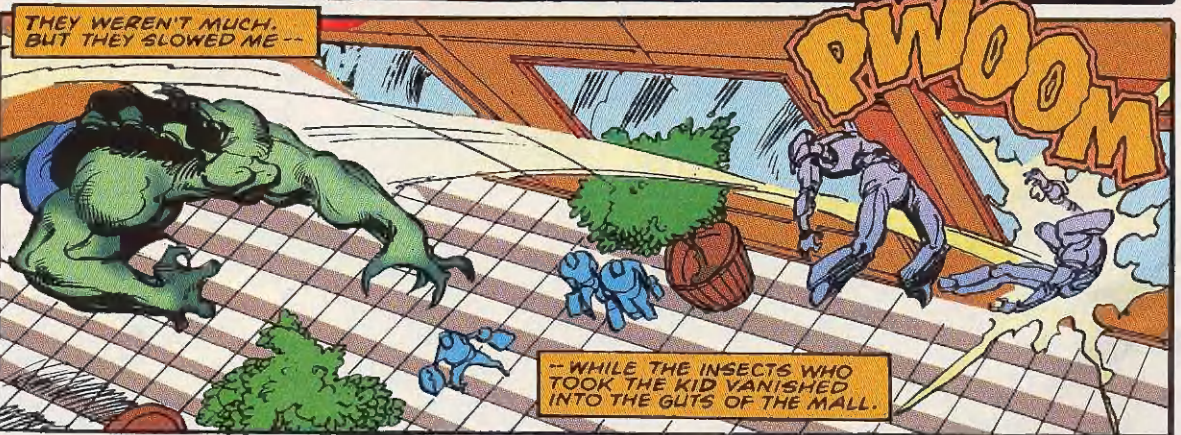
MOVE
IT!!!



THIS SHOULDN'T BE
HAPPENING HERE!
THIS IS
SHERMAN OAKS!

WOOSH





BULLPEN BULLETINS



STAN'S SOAPBOX

This is one Soapbox I couldn't wait to write! I just have to tell you something I learned about the power of Spidey. No, I'm not talking about his strength or his web-swinging — I'm talking about an even greater power — a power that crosses countries, continents, and oceans! If you haven't yet guessed it, I'm talking about your friendly neighborhood wall-crawler's fame!

It all happened just a few days ago while I was on a trip to Tokyo with Marvel's peerless president, Merry Terry Stewart. We had gone there to start a new Japanese publishing venture in partnership with the world-famous Shogakukan Production Company.

Now, before going any further, you've got to get this picture. Spider-Man is not published in Japan. There are no Spider-Man comic books, no Spidey cartoons, no Spidey toys or games in the Land of the Rising Sun. Nothing! Nada! Zilch! I can almost hear you asking, "So what's the big deal?" Well, this is it, O impatient one —

A survey taken in Tokyo revealed that more than 70% of the Japanese population actually *know* our wall-crawling wonder! It seems that Spidey's fame has managed to leap-frog clear across the Pacific Ocean! You know how it is — Japanese visitors see our mags in the U.S. and talk about them enthusiastically when they return home. Before you know it, the word spreads like wildfire! In fact, we dressed an actor in a Spider-Man costume and walked through the Tokyo streets with him, just as a gag, to see what would happen. The Japanese people went wild, laughing and cheering as if they'd known him all their lives! It made us realize how truly small the world is becoming and how quickly fame can spread!

Of course, the upshot of the whole thing is that Spidey and many of our other Marvel super heroes will soon be published in Japan where it's expected that they'll be as big a hit as they are elsewhere around the world. But they won't be hitting those far distant shores as strangers. No way! Instead, thanks to Spidey's amazing fame, they'll be greeted like old friends who just happen to have been away too long!

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee

This summer, there are more comics out than ever before. In fact, the last time we saw this many comics in one place, Bob Hope was putting on a USO show! There are so many new universes starting up, the Watchers are putting in for overtime.

If you're like us, you're probably buying lots of comics this summer ... and possibly even reading some of them! But there have got to be other things to do with comics besides just reading and collecting them. That's the puzzle that's been burning in our brains lately. For the answer, we decided to go right to the experts; and who knows more about comics than comic book characters?

Here now we present the views of our own super heroes on this mega-challenging question: *what do you do with your comics, besides reading and collecting them?*

The **Incredible Hulk** said, "I used to like to smash them, but I regret that now. If I hadn't smashed my old comic collection, I'd be a rich man today!"

Super-model **Mary Jane Watson-Parker** said, "You asked the right gal, pal! I wrap 'em in tin foil, and use 'em to reflect the sun on my bodacious bod while I'm tanning on the roof!"

The **Human Torch** said, "I like to sell 'em for huge profit! Every comic in my collection is a 'hot' issue!"

Gambit, of the X-Men said, "I like to charge 'em up, 'zen pass 'zen on to Wolverine! He gets a big bang out of 'zen!"

Daredevil's arch-foe, **Bullseye** said, "I like to fold my comics into deadly weapons, then kill people with them! Hey, in my hands, anything is a weapon!"

Medusa of the Inhumans said, "I like to roll them up and use them to discipline my dog, Lockjaw, with them! Sometimes I do the same thing to my husband, Black Bolt!"

The **Blob** said, "I eat them! They make a great between meal snack! Some may find it odd that I eat paper, but I'm a mutant, and I'll eat anything! How do you think I got this fat?"

The **Thing** said, "I use 'em to light my great big stinky cigars, just like Tom DeFalco does!"

The **Destroyer** from the Infinity Watch said, "Me use comical books to learn how to count up to 2099! Let's see ... that's one ... two ... 2099!"

THE BULL'S EYE by Rick Parker



The **Kingpin** said, "I don't have any comic books, but if I did, I'd sell them to get money for food! I'm a little down on my luck right now. All I need is some spare change ..."

The **Punisher** said, "I hang them from a tree and use them for target practice. I particularly like shooting at mutant books!"

Captain America said, "I like to give them to the orphans down at the hospital!"

John Blaze said, "I like to roll them up and stick them between the spokes of my bike! They make a really cool sound when I'm chasing down some demon or weirdo!"

Conan the Barbarian said, "I cover my body with them and use them for a blanket! Orom, but those nights in Cimmeria can chill a warrior's bones!"

Finally, we have **Aunt May**, who said, "What do you think I do with them? I'm an old lady! I throw them away, of course!"

Thanks, Aunt May! It's nice to know that some things never change!

WIN AN X-MEN SEGA GENESIS VIDEO GAME!

Pizza Hut's X-Men promotion begins August 7! Find the error on the Mutant Aptitude Test #1 placemat and you could win! Send your name address and correct answer on a 3x5 card to:

Mutant Aptitude Test

c/o Marvel Comics

387 Park Avenue South

New York, New York 10018.

One entry per person; No Marvel or Pizza Hut employees; Deadline 8/30

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #125: INFINITY**
CRUSADE crossover!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #382: The**
Hulk stomps in!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #16 MARVEL**
MILESTONE: Reprinting the classic
line-up change!
- ☐ **BARBIE #34: A fortune teller reveals**
Barbie 2099!
- ☐ **DARKHOLD #13: Enter the**
Missing Link! (No, not the guy from
he Mod Squad!)
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #42: Shot down in a**
Blaze of glory!
- ☐ **GROO TPB: FESTIVAL: The**
festivities are just beginning!

- ☐ **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY**
#41: Meet the 31st century Thor!
- ☐ **HYPERKIND #2: You could get a**
papercut by shaving with the
Razorline!
- ☐ **LETHAL FOES OF SPIDER-MAN**
#2 OF 4: Take a number to kill
Spidey!
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER HEROES**
SPECIAL #15: Thor in drag? WA-
HOOO!
- ☐ **MORBIUS REVISITED #3 OF 5:**
Who the heck is Helleyes?
- ☐ **NIGHT THRASHER #3: Melee in**
Madripoor!
- ☐ **PSYCHONAUTS #1 OF 4: And the**

- Anachronists still don't have their
own series!*
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR ZONE #20: Frank**
takes down Nam's and numbers!
- ☐ **QUASAR #51: The Squadron**
Supreme guest stars!
- ☐ **RAVAGE 2099 #11: Meet Ravage's**
family!
- ☐ **SABRETOOTH #3 OF 4: Saba**
learns that he is a daddy!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN**
#214: It's sword-swingin'
excitement!
- ☐ **SECRET DEFENDERS #8: It's the**
end of the world as we know it (and I
feel fine!)
- ☐ **SILVER SABLE #17: INFINITY**

- CRUSADE crossover!**
- ☐ **SLEEPWALKER #28: It's a**
nightmare when Sleepy turns evil!
- ☐ **WILD THING #7: We have to hype**
new artist Bryan Hitch! (Okay, so
we're Hitch-hyping!)
- ☐ **WOLVERINE #74: Saga of the**
sentient Sentinel!
- ☐ **WONDER MAN #28: Wonder Man**
goes to Asgard!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #95: Pick up this issue**
at Random!
- ☐ **X-MEN ADVENTURES #12: The**
fate of Archangel!
- ☐ **X-MEN ANNUAL #2: Introducing**
Empryean!



I KNEW NO MATTER HOW FAST THEIR LITTLE CAR WAS -- MY LEGS WERE FASTER.

I GAMBLLED THEY'D GO STRAIGHT DOWN THE GULLET.



WHAT I DIDN'T GAMBLE ON...

HEY!

YOU DON'T THINK YOU'RE GONNA JUST DRAG ME INTO THIS OVER-PRICED NUTHOUSE AND DUMP ME, DO YOU?!



I'M DOING THIS BECAUSE I OWE IT TO THAT KID. YOU DON'T OWE ANYBODY.

GET OUT. SAVE YOUR PRETTY LITTLE... FACE.

WHAT'S THIS KID TO YOU, ANYWAY?!



I CAUSED EVERYBODY HE KNEW IN THE WORLD TO BE KILLED -- SO I COULD MAKE A DIRTY BUCK.

THAT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS?

YOW!

I GET IT, I GET IT! I CAN'T LET YOU CARRY THAT BURDEN ALONE CAN I?



BESIDES... I HATE THE STORES IN THE VALLEY! YOU CAN'T FIND ANYTHING VINTAGE!



WHERE'S
SECURITY?
WE'VE COVERED
MILES -- AND
NO MORE
ATTACKS.

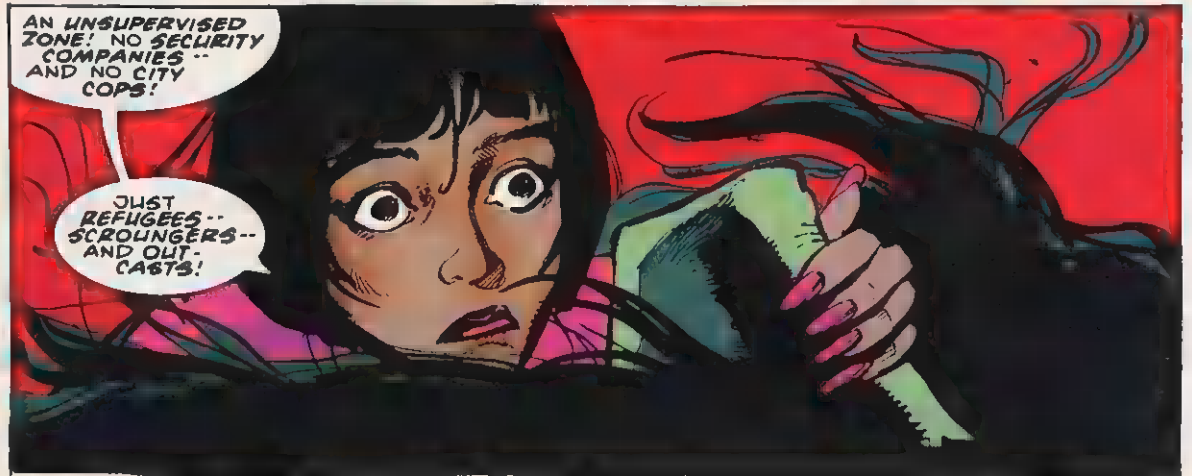
I DON'T
THINK
THESE
STORES CAN
AFFORD
SECURITY.
HAVEN'T YOU
NOTICED? WE'RE
NOT IN RICH-
FOLK
COUNTRY ANY
MORE.

LOOKS
LIKE YOUR
BASIC "MIDDLE
ZONE," RIGHT?
ETHNIC STEW POT,
BAREBONES
SERVICES. SAFER
THAN A "PUBLIC
ZONE," BUT
NO FLYING
SUITS!



THEN THIS MALL
MUST'VE EVOLVED--
TO MATCH THE CITY
OUTSIDE.

I THINK
WE'RE ABOUT
TO HIT
RESEDA --



AN UNSUPERVISED
ZONE! NO SECURITY
COMPANIES --
AND NO CITY
COPS!

JUST
REFUGEES--
SCROUNGERS--
AND OUT-
CASTS!

THEN I SMELLED SOMETHING
I NEVER SMELLED IN
HOLLYWOOD, SOMETHING
THAT MADE MY MOUTH WATER--

REALITY.

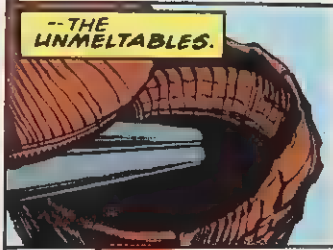
FRESH FOOD AND ANIMALS
AND HUMAN SWEAT
WITHOUT CHEMICAL PRETTY-UPS.

I MOVED FASTER.
HAD TO. IT'S IN
MY BLOOD.

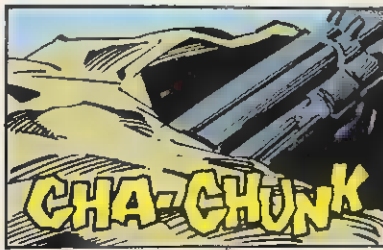
THE MARKET. A HUNDRED
YEARS OF WAR THREW
PEOPLE FROM EVERY BACK-
WATER IN THE WORLD ONTO
CALIFORNIA'S SHORE,
WHERE THEY KEEP LIVING
THE ONLY LIFE THEY KNOW--

--OR CAN
AFFORD.

AND JUST BEYOND IT, ONE
JUMP FURTHER FROM
WHAT AMERICA CALLS
CIVILIZATION --



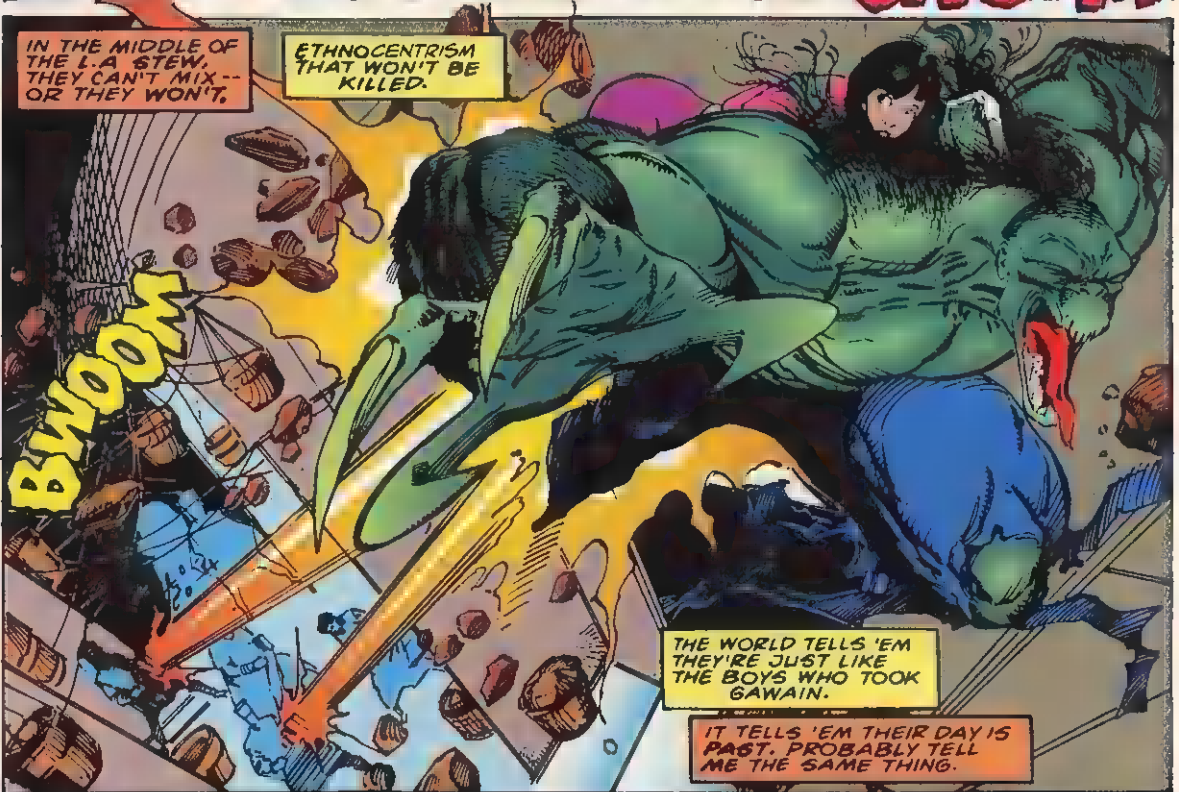
--THE
UNMELTABLES.



CHA-CHUNK



BWOOM



IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE L.A. STEW,
THEY CAN'T MIX--
OR THEY WON'T.

ETHNOCENTRISM
THAT WON'T BE
KILLED.

BWOOM

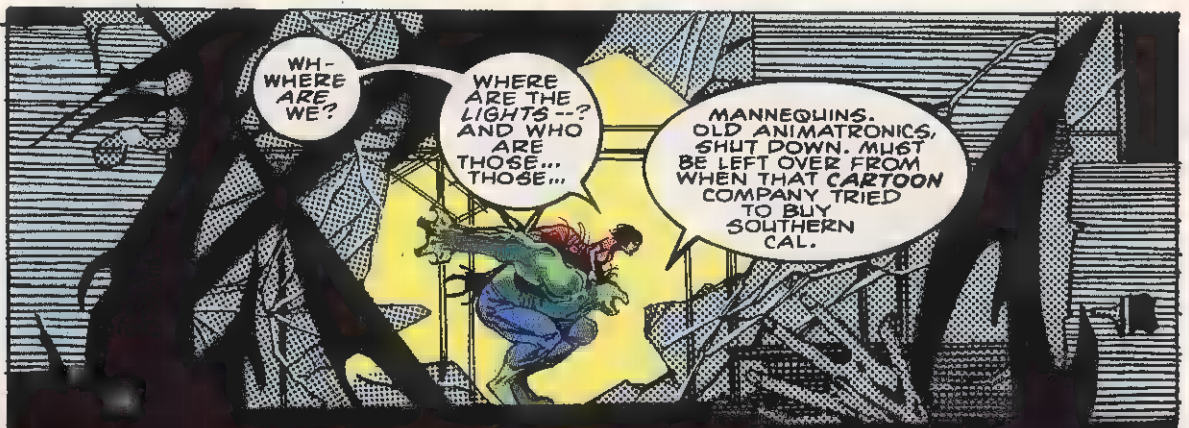
THE WORLD TELLS 'EM
THEY'RE JUST LIKE
THE BOYS WHO TOOK
GAWAIN.

IT TELLS 'EM THEIR DAY IS
PAST. PROBABLY TELL
ME THE SAME THING.



LIFE'S JUST
FULL OF
SURPRISES.

DOOM



WH-
WHERE
ARE
WE?

WHERE
ARE THE
LIGHTS--?
AND WHO
ARE
THOSE...
THOSE...

MANNEQUINS.
OLD ANIMATRONICS.
SHUT DOWN. MUST
BE LEFT OVER FROM
WHEN THAT CARTOON
COMPANY TRIED
TO BUY
SOUTHERN
CAL.



BUT
WHY ISN'T
ANYBODY
IN THIS--

THERE.

IT'S
THEM.



THIS MUST BE
NORTH HOLLYWOOD--
YOU KNOW, WHERE
THEY HAD THOSE
WEIRD RADIATION
LEAKAGES A
WHILE BACK?

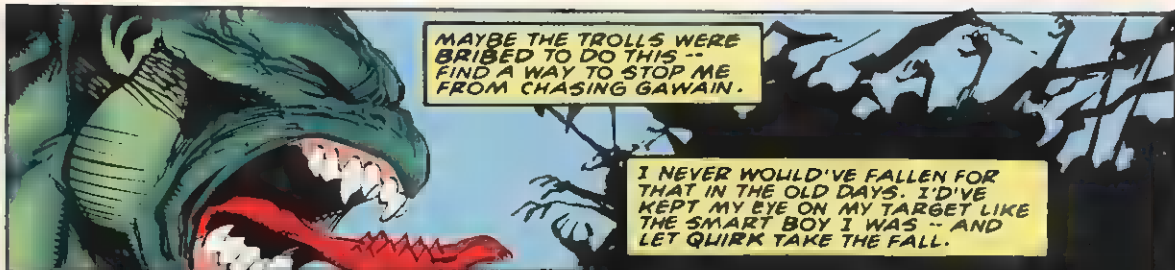
I
NEVER
HEARD
ABOUT
IT.



I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU
HOLLYWOOD TYPES!
YOU DON'T KNOW ANY-
THING UNLESS YOU'RE
WORKING ON A
STORY BASED
ON --



EEYAAA!



MAYBE THE TROLLS WERE
BRIBED TO DO THIS --
FIND A WAY TO STOP ME
FROM CHASING GAWAIN.

I NEVER WOULD'VE FALLEN FOR
THAT IN THE OLD DAYS. I'D'VE
KEPT MY EYE ON MY TARGET LIKE
THE SMART BOY I WAS -- AND
LET QUIRK TAKE THE FALL.

THAT WAS BEFORE
I GREW UP.

I'M A MAN. AND A
MAN SHOULDERS
HIS BURDENS.

A MAN DOESN'T LET
ANYTHING STOP HIM
FROM DOING WHAT'S
RIGHT.

NOT EVEN AN
ARMY OF
SPIT-STINKIN'
TROLLS.



THEY SAY YOU CAN HEAR
THEIR STRANGE WHISPERS
ECHOING DOWN THE HALLS
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.

THEY SAY PEOPLE
WHO STAY IN THE
MALL AFTER CLOSING
DISAPPEAR SOMETIMES.

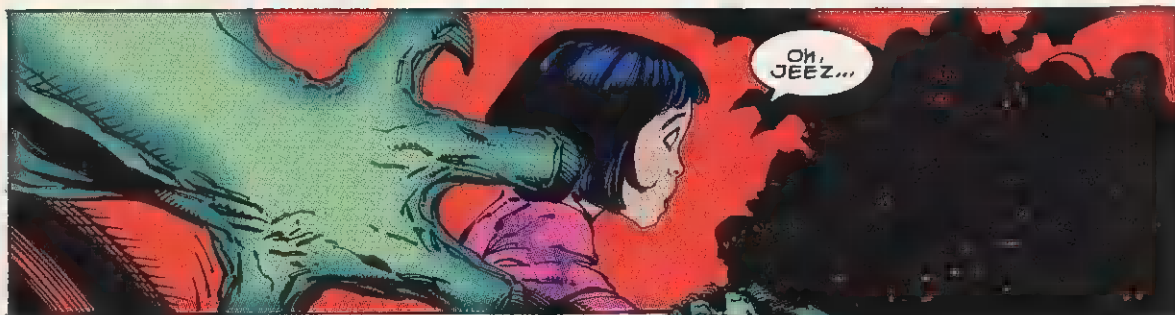
THEY SAY THEY
COLLECT THINGS.

CAN YOU
BELIEVE THESE
SHOES? THESE
ARE FROM WHEN
THEY ACTUALLY
USED
LEATHER!

I'VE HAUNTED JUNK STORES
IN THE WORST ZONES FOR YEARS
FOR STUFF LIKE THIS! I
CAN'T JUST LEAVE
THEM!!

LEAVE
THEM --OR
I LET THE
TROLLS
COLLECT
YOU.

YOU'RE...
YOU'RE
BLUFFING,
RIGHT?



OH,
JEEZ...



WHY DO
THEY WANT
ME?!

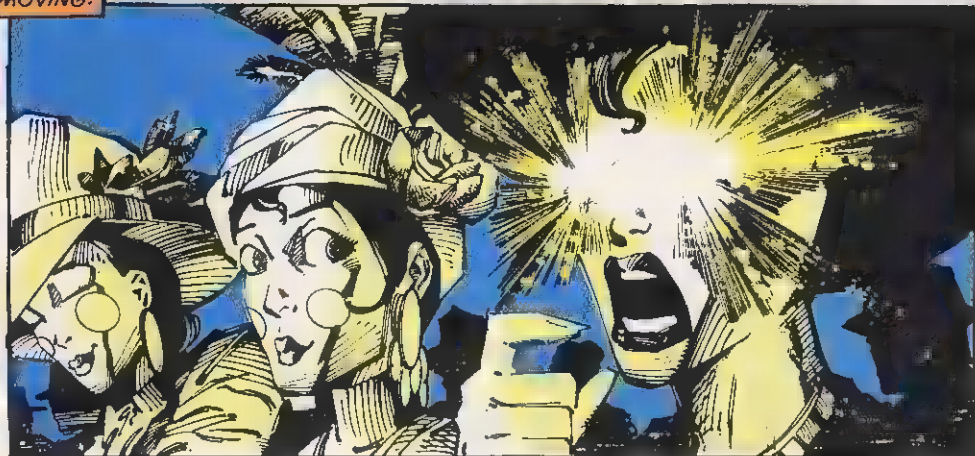
MAYBE
FOR
NOSTALGIA.

Huh
!?!?

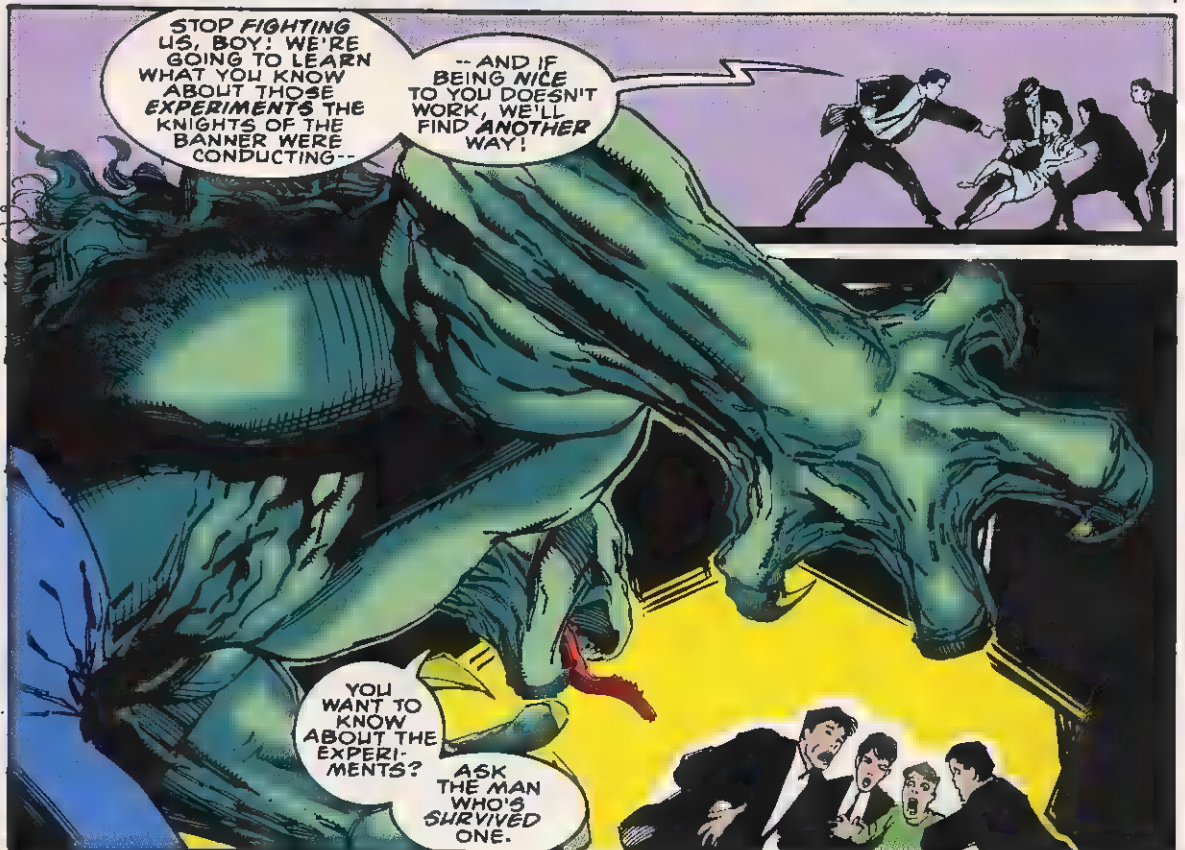
MAYBE
YOU REMIND
THEM... OF
SOMETHING
THEY USED
TO BE.

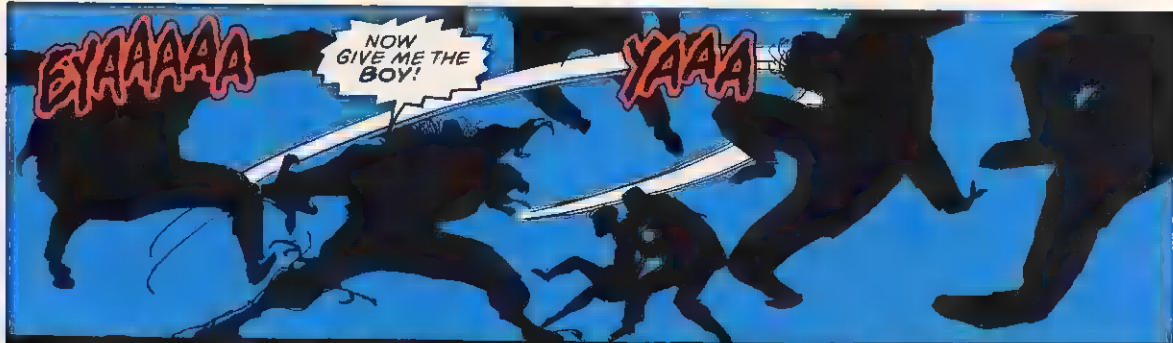


MOVING.









**HHWOOP
WOOP**

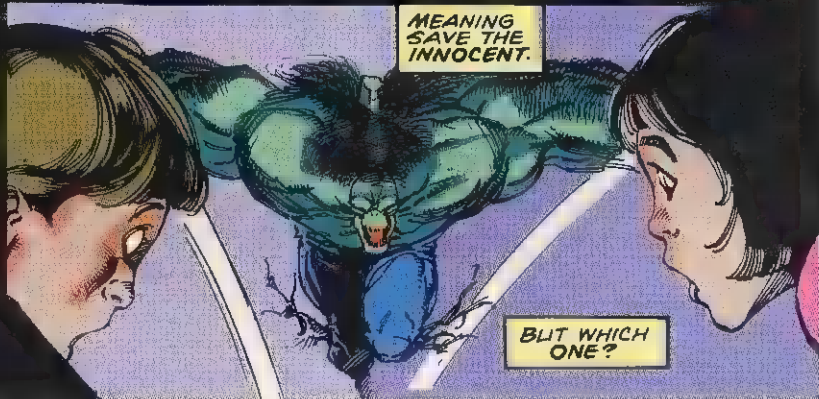


DELETE.

MEANING
BOMB.



MEANING
SAVE THE
INNOCENT.





HEY...
THANKS.

BUT...
WHY
ME?



A GAMBLE. THEY
WANT THAT KID. YOU
THEY'D LET BURN,
BUT I WAS BETTING
THEY'D HAVE A WAY
TO SAVE
HIM.

MAYBE
I BET
WRONG.

WHY
DO THEY
WANT HIM?
WHO ARE
THEY?

I DON'T
KNOW WHO.
BUT I'M GOING
TO FIND OUT.
AND I'M GOING
TO FIND OUT IF
MY GUESS
ABOUT THIS
PLACE IS
RIGHT --

-- THAT
THEY'RE
TRYING TO
CREATE AN
ARMY OF
HULKS!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS

SPIDER-MAN 2099

HOW DID HE MOVE
SO FAST? I MISSED 'IM
AND HIT--

SCIENTISTS PULL APART DNA TO TRY
'N' FIND GENETIC CURES FOR THE WORLD'S
DISEASES...
...BUT THERE'S NO CURE
FOR THIS DISEASE!

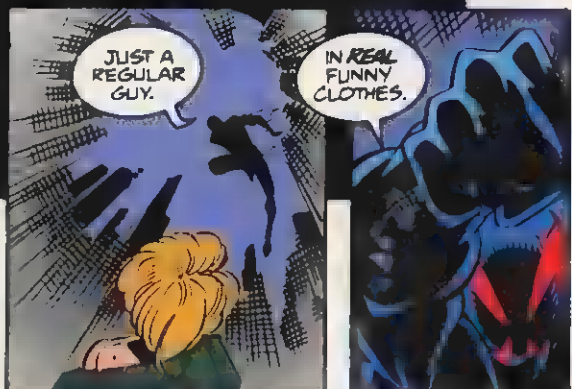
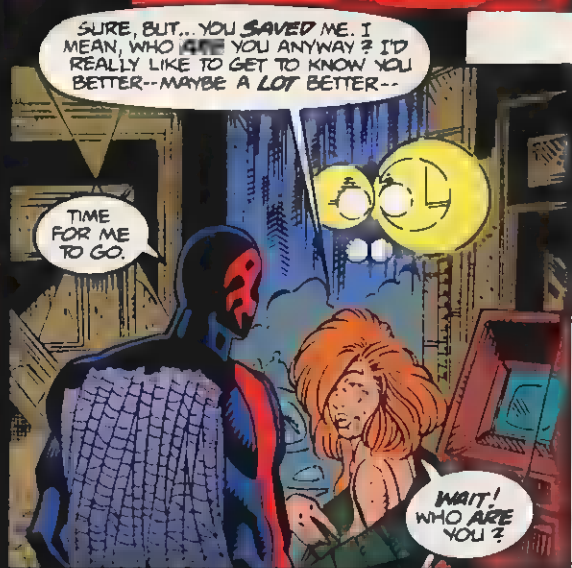
ZOKK

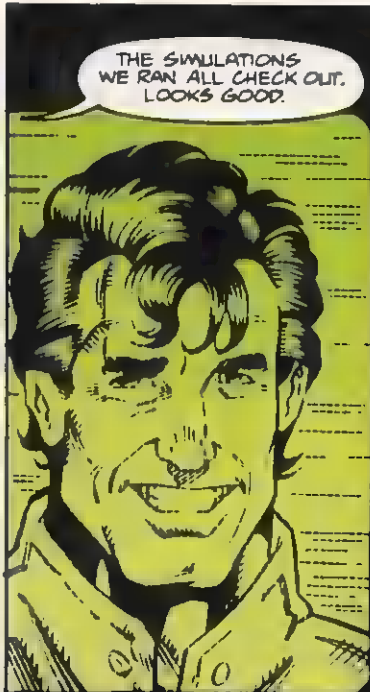
NO CURE TO STOP
THE STRONG FROM
PREYING ON THE
WEAK!

WHAT THE
SHOCK IS
WRONG WITH
YOU GUYS?
NAIL HIM!

REMOTE CONTROL

EVAN SKOLNICK · CHRIS WOZNIAK · JOHN LOWE · DAVE SHARPE · KEVIN SOMERS · JOEY CAVALIERI · TOM DEFALOO
WRITER PENCILS INKS LETTERS COLORS EDITOR CHIEF





THE SIMULATIONS
WE RAN ALL CHECK OUT.
LOOKS GOOD.

O'HARA, MIGUEL

DAVIDSON TOWERS, 441

NEW

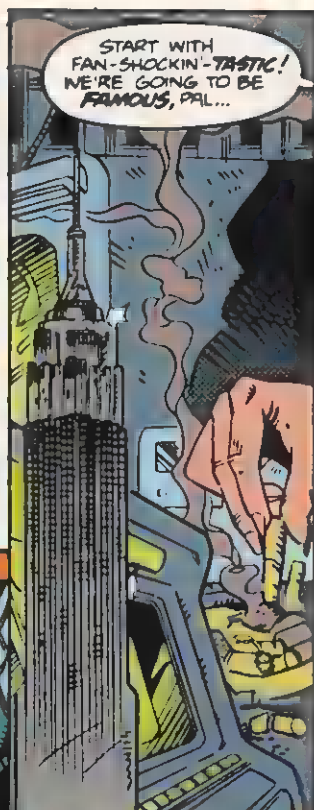
VIDEOPHONE



NOW THERE'S AN
UNDERSTATEMENT,
DAMIAN. THREE YEARS
OF OUR HARD WORK
FINALLY COME TO FRU-
ITION AND THAT'S YOUR
ENTHUSIASTIC
RESPONSE?

WHAT WOULD
YOU HAVE ME SAY,
CARMEN?

O'HARA, MIGUEL
DAVIDSON TOWERS, 441
NEW YORK CITY 10024-4405-4405
TELEPHONE 352-3523



START WITH
FAN-SHOCKIN'-TASTIC!
WE'RE GOING TO BE
FAMOUS, PAL...



...INVENTORS OF
THE FIRST WORKING
SOFTWARE THAT CAN
BE FULLY INPUT RIGHT
INTO THE BRAIN THROUGH
THE SENSE OF SIGHT--

OKAY, SO IT'S A BIT
CRUDE AND HASN'T BEEN
TRIED ON A HUMAN SUBJECT
YET... BUT IT WORKS, DAMIAN.
IT WORKS!

IT'S UNTESTED, CARMEN...
LET'S NOT FORGET SCIENTIFIC
PRINCIPLES IN OUR HASTE TO
WIN FAME AND FORTUNE!

DISCRETION, CHILD. WE DON'T WANT **ALCHEMAX** TO LEARN OF OUR PROGRESS BEFORE THE TIME IS **RIPE**. THE WALLS HAVE EARS.

GIMME! A **BREAK**, DAMIAN. EVERYONE ELSE WENT HOME, AND WE CHECKED FOR **BUGS** JUST THIS MORNING.

STILL, WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL... **MACROWARE** IS, AFTER ALL, AN **ALCHEMAX** "THINK TANK"! IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO IMAGINE THAT THEY'D FIND US WITHOUT WATCHING TO SEE IF THEIR INVESTMENT BEARS **FRUIT**. THEY'D NEVER RELINQUISH THEIR HOLD ON US.

YOU'RE GETTING **PARANOID** IN YOUR OLD AGE.

SO WE DID.

MM. PERHAPS. MAYBE I WANT AN OLD AGE.

BUT AS FOR OUR EXPERIMENT, ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR US TO FIND A TEST SUBJECT.

IT'LL WORK BETTER ON RELATIVELY CLOSE-MINDED PEOPLE, DON'T FORGET.

THEIR NEURAL NETS ARE MORE ESTABLISHED... EASIER FLOW CONTROL.

IT'S MITCHELL.

YOU NEVER REALLY ~~FORGOT~~ THAT **TEKNIK** DWEEB FOR GETTING YOU FIRED, DID YOU?

BE FUNNY IF WE TRIED IT ON HIM! THAT'D SETTLE THE SCORE WOULDN'T IT?

SPEAKING OF CLOSE-MINDED, LOOK WHO'S WORKING LATE OVER AT **TEKNIK**.

WHOA! WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OUR DEVICE IS STILL WIRED TO YOUR VIDEOPHONE, RIGHT?

YOU'RE SENDING A VIRUS PROGRAM... TO MITCHELL?

LOOK, DAMIAN, THIS ISN'T FUNNY. I WAS JOKING ABOUT YOU GETTING EVEN! DON'T--

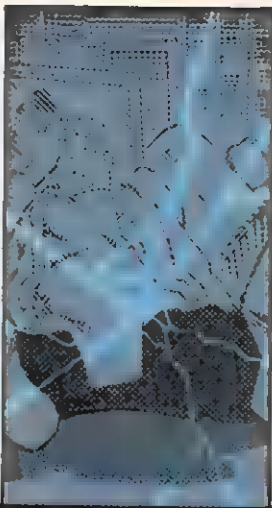
"HUSH CHILD. OBSERVE SCIENTIFIC METHOD, AS WE TEST OUR HYPOTHESIS."

TEKNIK, JACK MITCHELL SPEAKING.

EEEEEE

EEEEEE

KRAK



KRAKCH

GOOD LORD!

HARDER JACK... YOU'LL HAVE TO HIT IT HARDER IF YOU'RE GOING TO JUMP..

KRAKCH KRAKCH KRAK KRAKCH

MR. MITCHELL, I HEARD NOISE. IS EVERYTH-- AIEEE!!

KRAKCH

IN A WORD, ELANA... SUCCESS! AS IN... THE ... BIG TIME!

FROM NOW ON, I... I MEAN, WE CAN WRITE OUR OWN TICKET! WHO NEEDS ALCHEMAX?

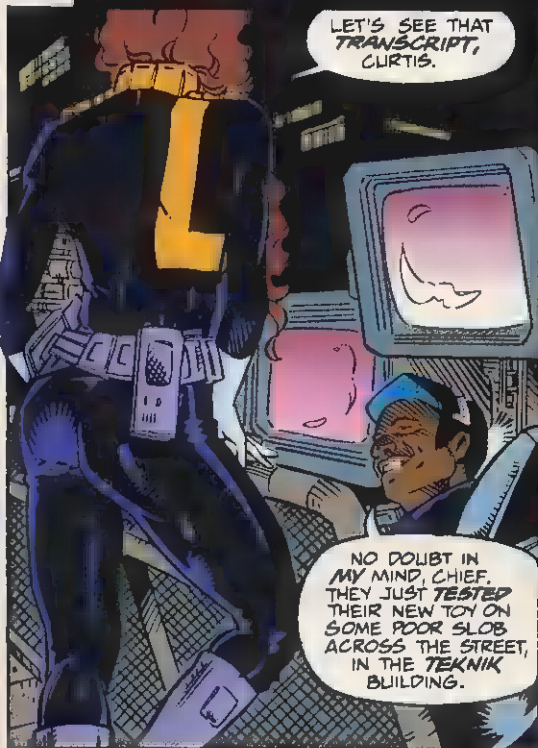
WE CAN SIT BACK AND WATCH THE MONEY ROLL IN!



SOMEWHERE ELSE...

MS. WOLFE-- I THINK YOU'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK AT THIS.

THOSE CLEVER LITTLE MACROWARE TECHS HAVE MADE THEIR **BREAKTHROUGH**.



LET'S SEE THAT **TRANSCRIPT**, CURTIS.

NO DOUBT IN MY MIND, CHIEF. THEY JUST **TESTED** THEIR NEW TOY ON SOME POOR SLOB ACROSS THE STREET, IN THE **TEKNIK** BUILDING.

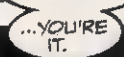
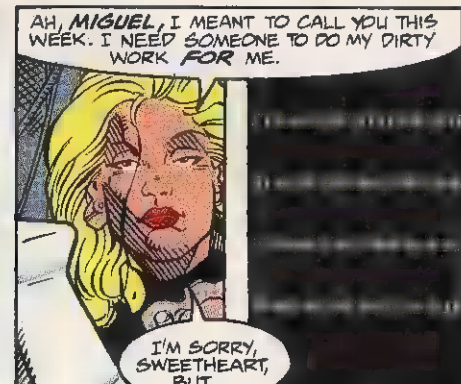
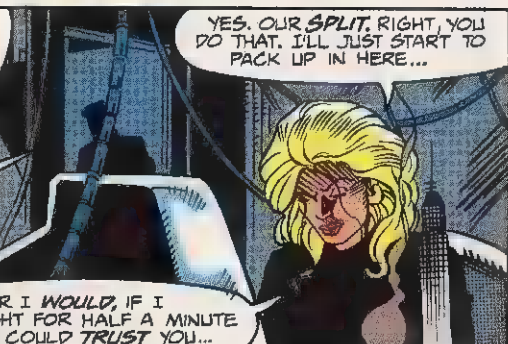
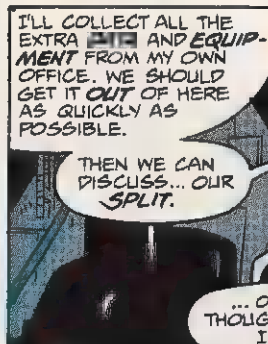
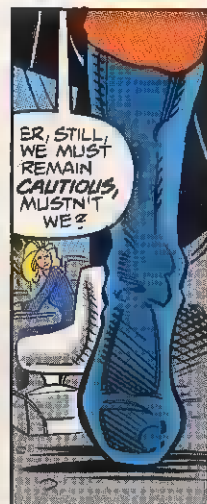
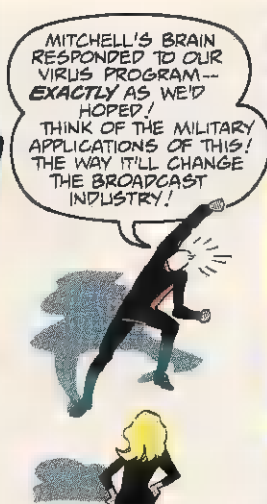
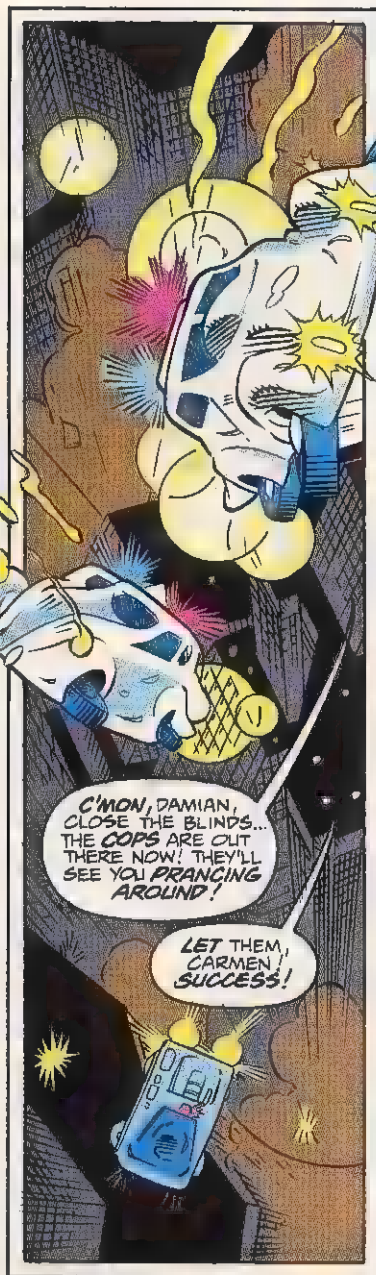
GREGORY, I'VE GOT PAY DIRT HERE. ALERT **ALCHEMAX**. IT'S TIME TO ~~WAKE~~ ON THIS. SEND A TEAM OUT TO MACROWARE. PUT THE **ROOKIES** ON IT.

MAN, MACROWARE CHECKS FOR **ALCHEMAX** BUGS EVERY DAY.

IF THEY EVER FOUND OUT WE'RE BUGGING THEIR CONVERSATIONS BY BOUNCING SATELLITE **LASERS** OFF THEIR WINDOWS--

KEEP YOUR MOUTH **SHUT** AND YOUR EARS **OPEN**, CURTIS. IT'S THE **FIRST LESSON** YOU LEARNED HERE.

DON'T MAKE IT THE **LAST**.



INITIALIZE SYSTEM, VIDPHONE 7584-3837-628
SYSTEM INITIALIZED, AWAITING COMMAND
KILL DR. DAMIAN FAWCETT OF MACROWARE
INC. BY ANY MEANS POSSIBLE***SEND***

SYSTEM INITIALIZED. AWAITING

COMMAND: KILL DR. DAMIAN

FAWCETT OF MACROWARE, INC.

BY ANY MEANS POSSIBLE

SEND

ANSWERING SERVICE ENGAGED

DEPOSITING MESSAGE

ANSWERING

SERVICE

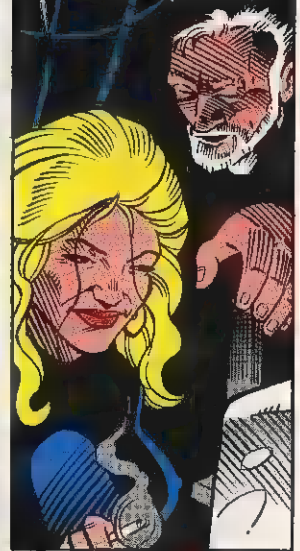
ENGAGED

MESSAGE

DEPOSITED

NOW I JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE I
DON'T ~~MISS~~ ANY ~~MESSAGE~~ FOR A
FEW DAYS, AND--

NOT GOING
TO BE A PROBLEM,
MY PROTEGE.



A STATUE OF
THE EMPIRE STATE
BUILDING.

QUITE AN
APPROPRIATE
RELIC FOR YOU TO
KEEP AROUND --

--IT'S
HISTORY--

--AND
NOW SO ARE
YOU!

R-REAL
SSSUBLTLE...
D-DAMIAN...

SUBTLETY'S
NOT THE POINT.
THE MONEY
IS.

K
R
A
K
K

EEE--*

MIGUEL, YOUR
CARDIOPULMONARY
RATES AND BLOOD
PRESSURE HAVE RISEN
TO DANGEROUSLY
HIGH LEVELS--

--MIGUEL,
ARE YOU IN
NEED OF
MEDICAL
ATTENTION?

CHINK

MIGUEL...?



ALCHEMAX...

HOLD IMAGE OF OBJECTIVES
LYNCH AND FAWCETT --
MARK 'EM, TROOPS.

GOOD. NOW LET'S GO OVER
THOSE ORDERS *ONCE MORE*.
OUR MISSION IS TO CAPTURE
THE SCIENTISTS ALIVE --
REPEAT, *ALIVE* -- AND GET
THEIR DATA.

FSSHH

PFF-- YOU
WORRY TOO MUCH,
PONCHO.

IT'LL BE NO
PROBLEM.

HEH
HEH.

JUST LIKE
LAST TIME,
REMEMBER,
RECOIL?

A MINOR CORPORATE
TAKE-OVER... BUT YOU FOULED
UP AN' NEARLY MADE IT AN
INCIDENT.

SHUT UP, TARP!
YA SHOCKIN'
OLD MAN--

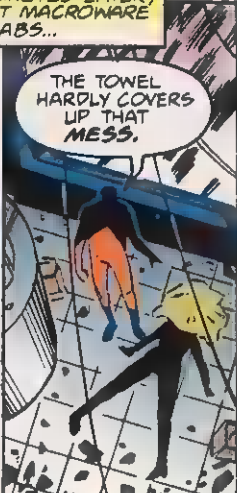
RECOIL --
BACK
OFF!

THAT LAST SCREW-UP
FOUND IT'S WAY TO
TYLER STONE'S ATTEN-
TION! YOU WANNA BE
SECOND-STRINGERS
ALL YOUR LIVES?

WHAMM

I'M WARNING YOU
BOTH! THIS BETTER
BE *NOTHIN'*
LIKE LAST TIME!

MINUTES LATER,
AT MACROWARE
LABS...



THE TOWEL
HARDLY COVERS
UP THAT
MESS.



BUT I'VE
GOT TO GET
THAT **DEVICE**
OF OURS
TO--



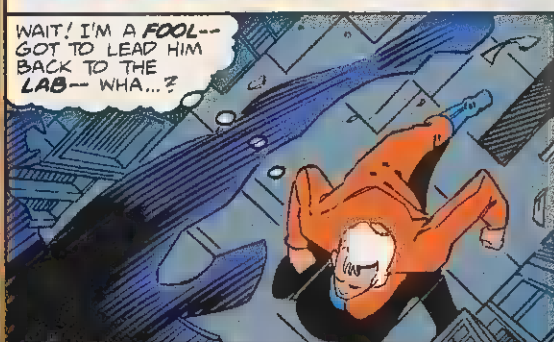
--SAFETY--



GOOD
LORD!

THEY'VE SENT
A **CORPORATE**
RAIDER AFTER
ME!







FREEZE!
LAY DOWN AND
SURRENDER!

SHING

KCHOW

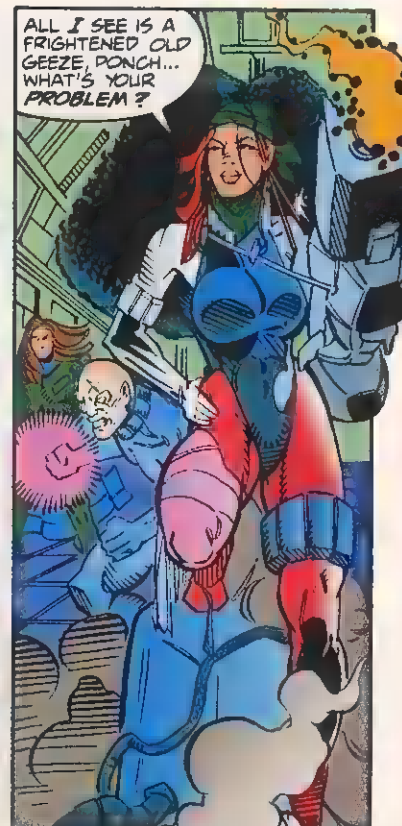
KCHOW

KCHOW



HOLD IT, RAIDERS,
I'M TRYING TO
GET AN ANALYSIS
ON THE CEILING--

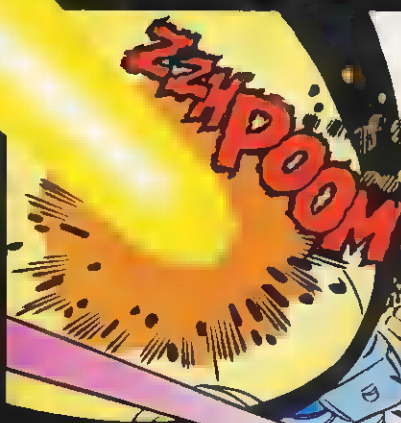
--COULD'VE
SWORN I SAW
SOMETHING UP
THERE--



ALL I SEE IS A
FRIGHTENED OLD
GEEZE, PONCH...
WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM?



THERE!
ELEVEN O'
CLOCK!



ZZZPOOM



HE'S
MINE!

SHRACK

CAN'T STOP--
LIKE I'M ON
AUTOPILOT--

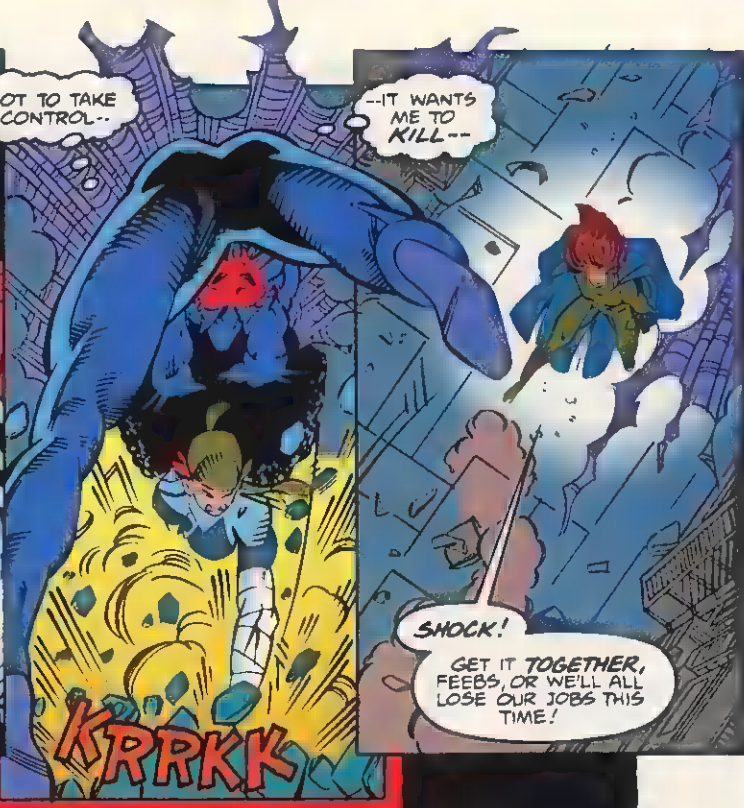
NO ACCESS TO MY
MUSCLES, MY REFLEXES--
CARMEN, WHAT HAVE YOU
DONE TO ME?





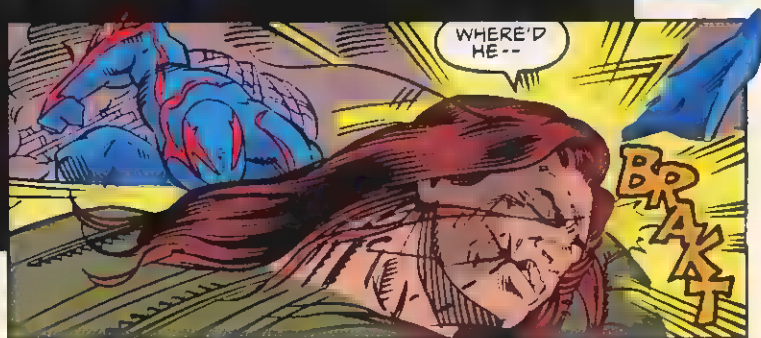
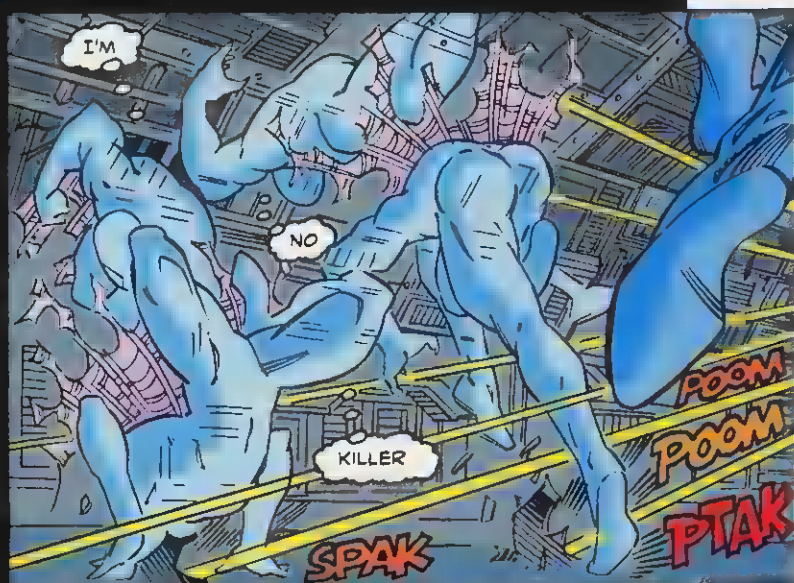
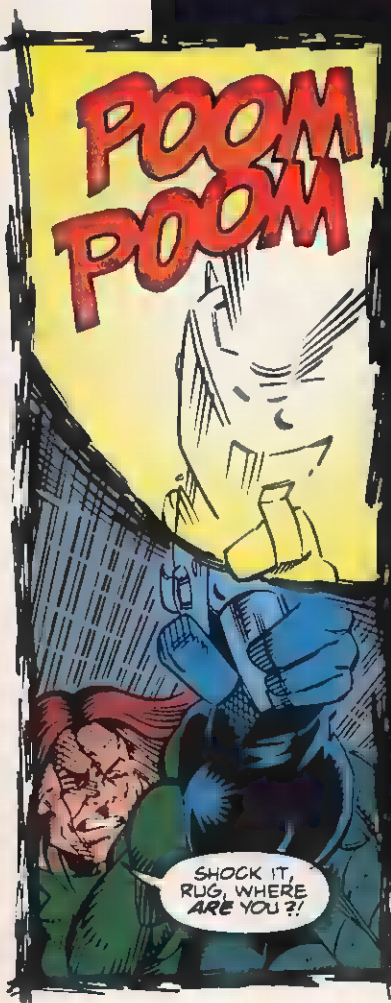
GOT TO TAKE CONTROL--

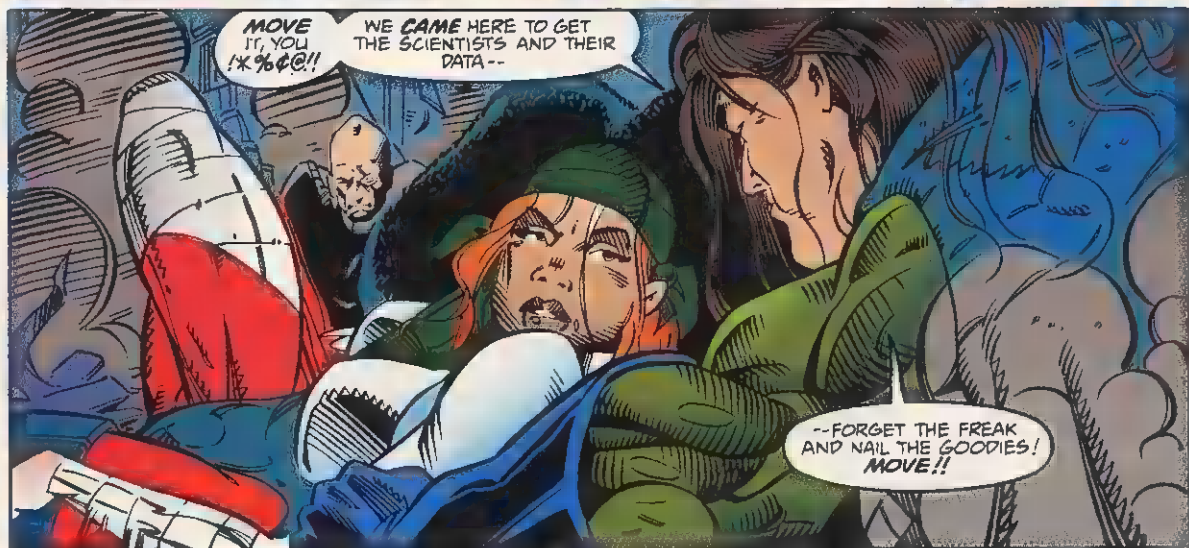
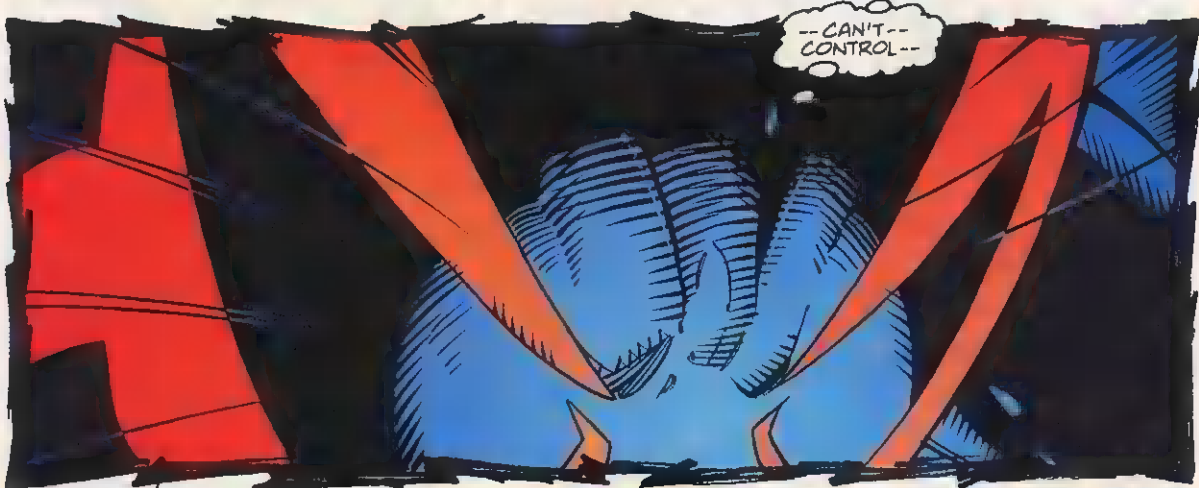
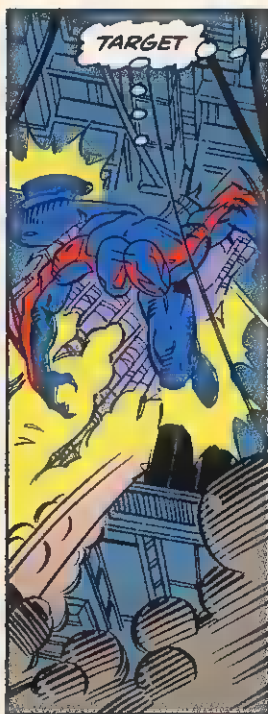
--IT WANTS ME TO KILL--

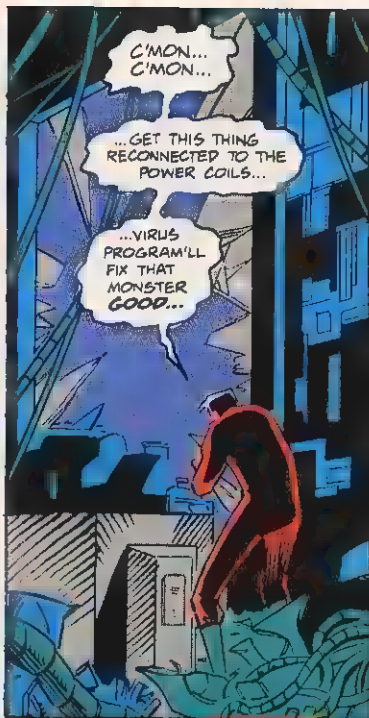


SHOCK!

GET IT TOGETHER, FEEBS, OR WE'LL ALL LOSE OUR JOBS THIS TIME!



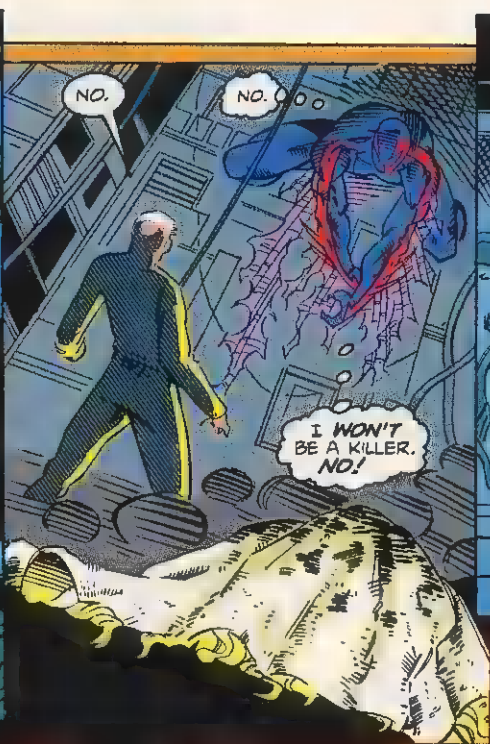




C'MON...
C'MON...

...GET THIS THING
RECONNECTED TO THE
POWER COILS...

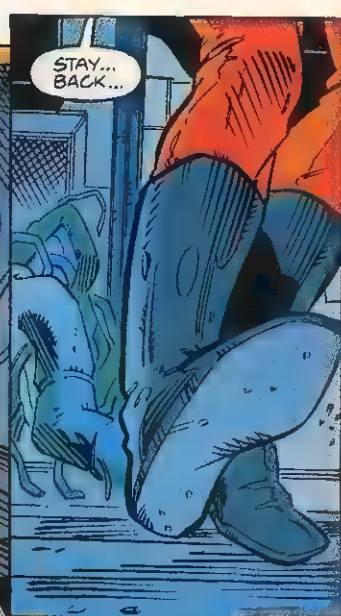
...VIRUS
PROGRAM'LL
FIX THAT
MONSTER
GOOD...



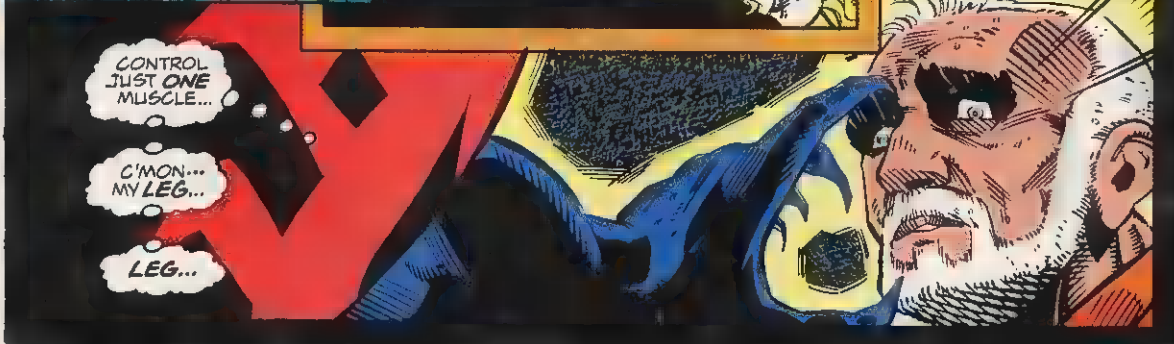
NO.

NO. NO. NO.

I WON'T
BE A KILLER.
NO!



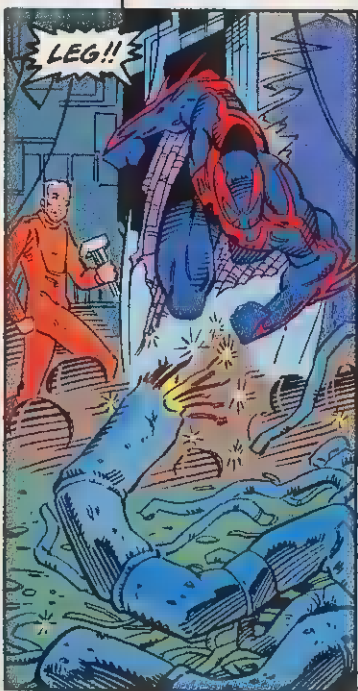
STAY...
BACK...



CONTROL
JUST ONE
MUSCLE...

C'MON...
MY LEG...

LEG...

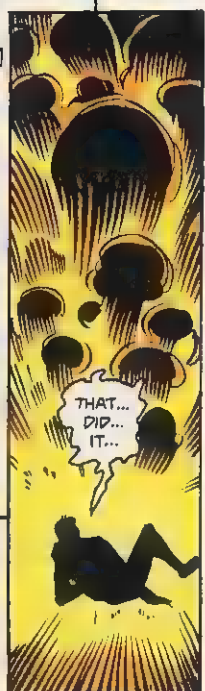


LEG!!



AAAHHR!

ZZZRAKKT

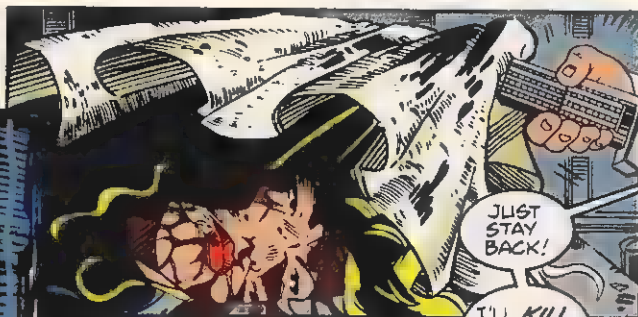


THAT...
DID...
IT...



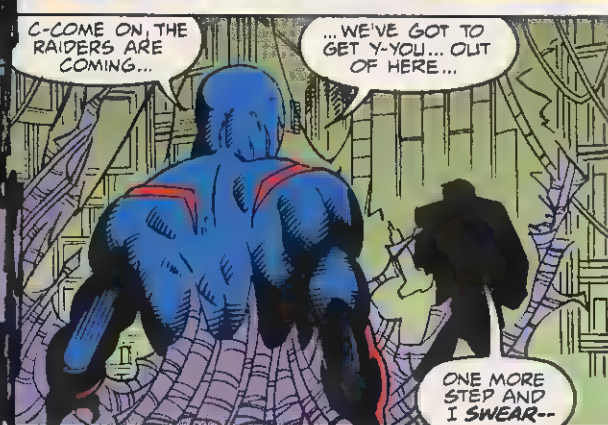
CURRENT FROM THAT OPEN POWER
COIL... RAN THROUGH MY BRAIN. **FREED**
ME FROM CARMEN'S "MESSAGE".

COULD'VE FRIED ME, BUT IT WAS
EITHER RISK *THAT*... OR BECOME
A **MURDERER!**



I'LL
KILL
YOU, YOU
HEAR?

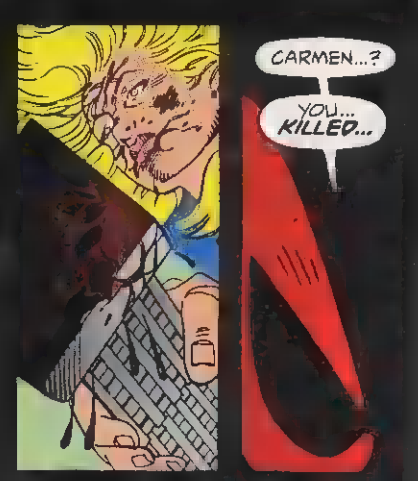
KILL
YOU!



C-COME ON, THE
RAIDERS ARE
COMING...

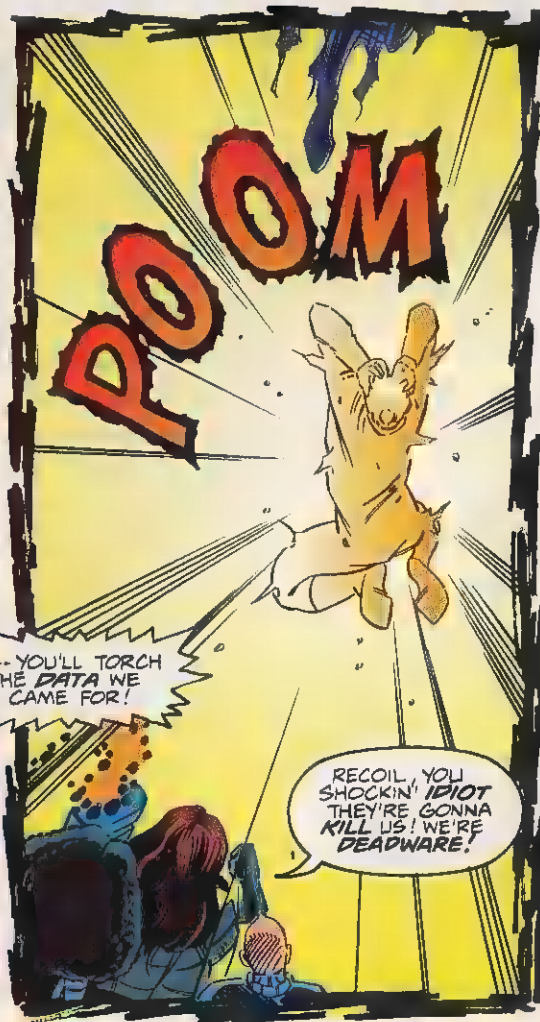
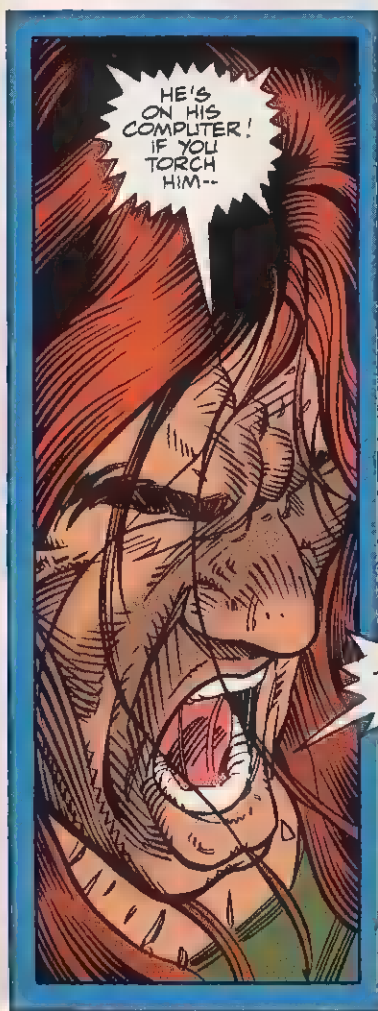
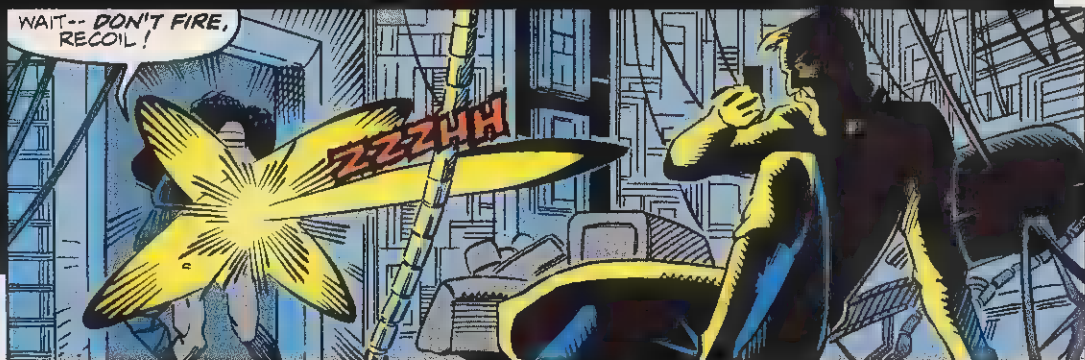
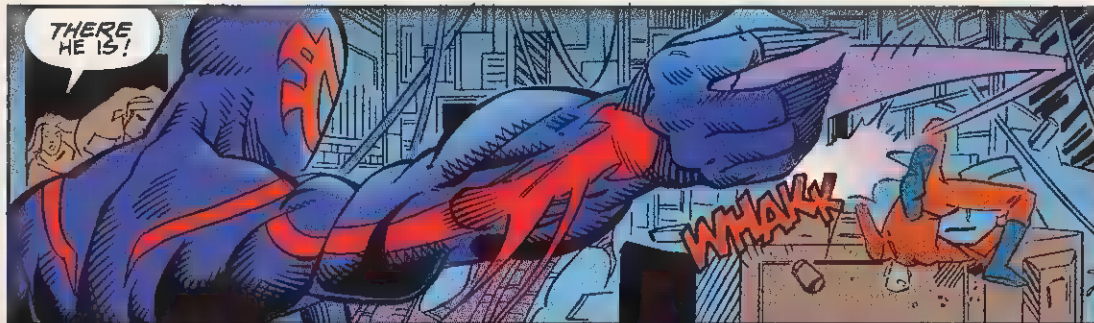
...WE'VE GOT TO
GET Y-YOU... OUT
OF HERE...

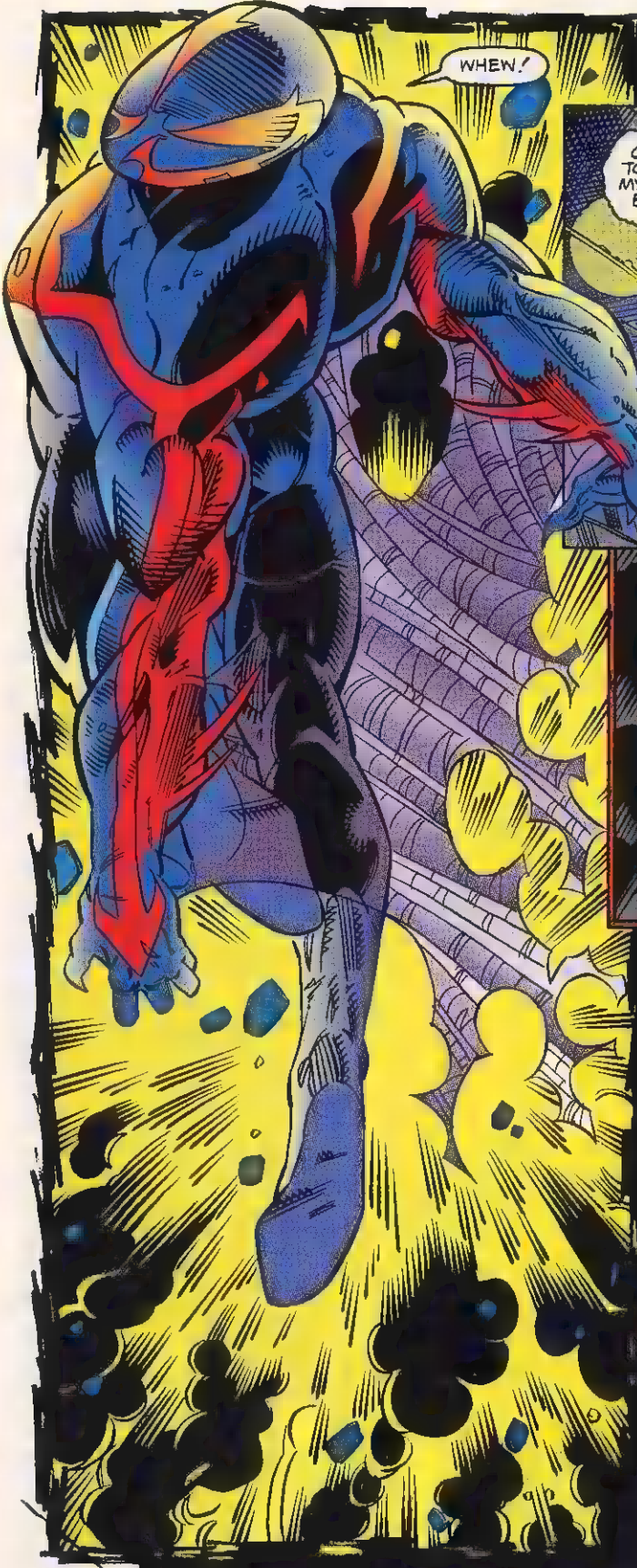
ONE MORE
STEP AND
I SWEAR--



CARMEN...?

YOU...
KILLED...

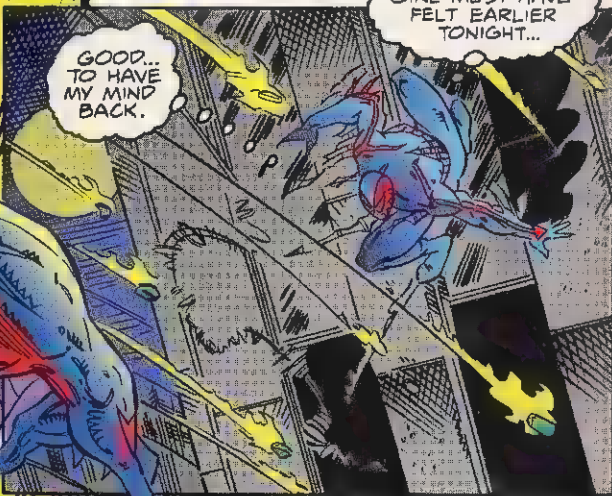




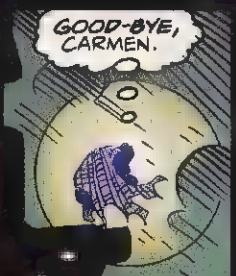
WHEW!

GOOD...
TO HAVE
MY MIND
BACK.

NOW I KNOW
HOW THAT POOR
GIRL MUST HAVE
FELT EARLIER
TONIGHT...



...VIOLATED...
HELPLESS...



GOOD-BYE,
CARMEN.

I ALMOST
ENVY YOU,
YOU'RE FREE
NOW.

FREE OF
A WORLD
WHERE...
EVERYTHING'S
UNDER
CONTROL.

END

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

R•GANG

2099

IN

CREATED,
STORY & ART
by

BOB
FINGERMAN

JOEY
CAVALIERI
Editor

TOM
DEFALCO
Chief

AND
UNDERSTOOD!
DON'T YOU
THINK YOU OUGHTA
GO BACK TO YOUR
STORE NOW?

MESSAGE
RECEIVED,
MR.
MERCHANT!

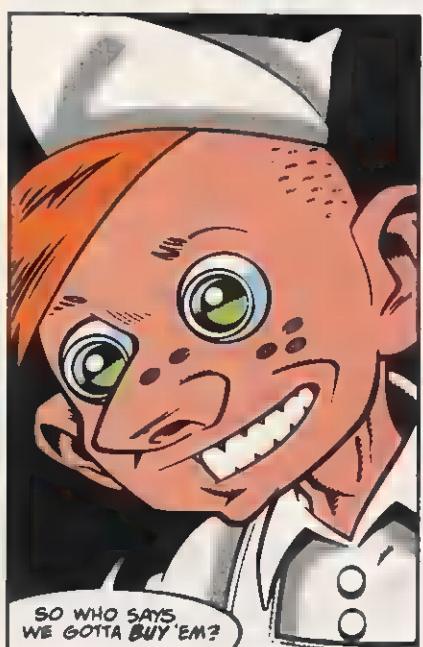
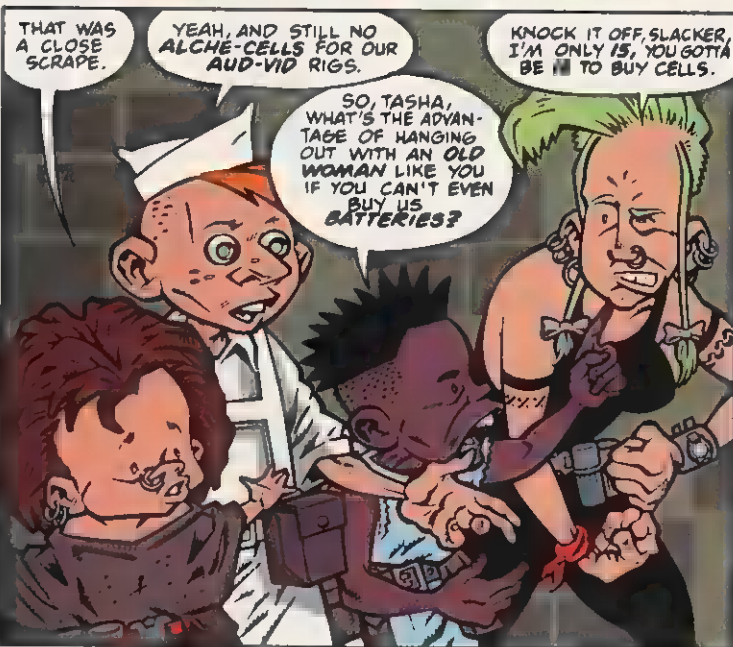
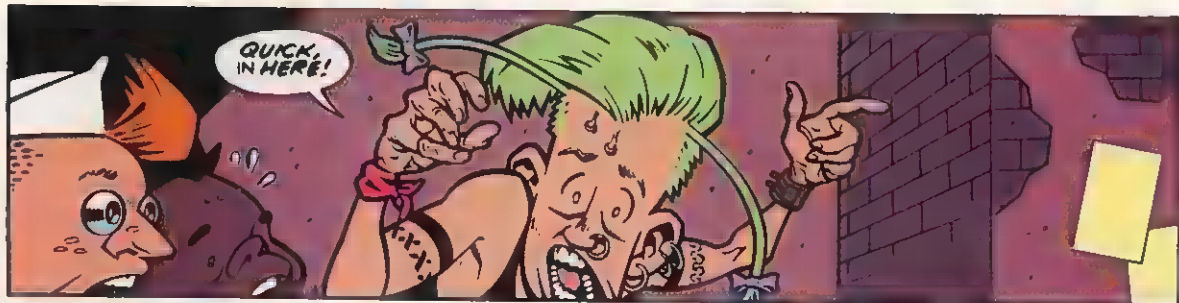
I TOLD YOU
PUNKS FOR TH' LAST
TIME, DON'T COME
'ROUND MY STORE NO
MORE! I AIN'T EVER
GONNA SELL YOU
NO CELLS!

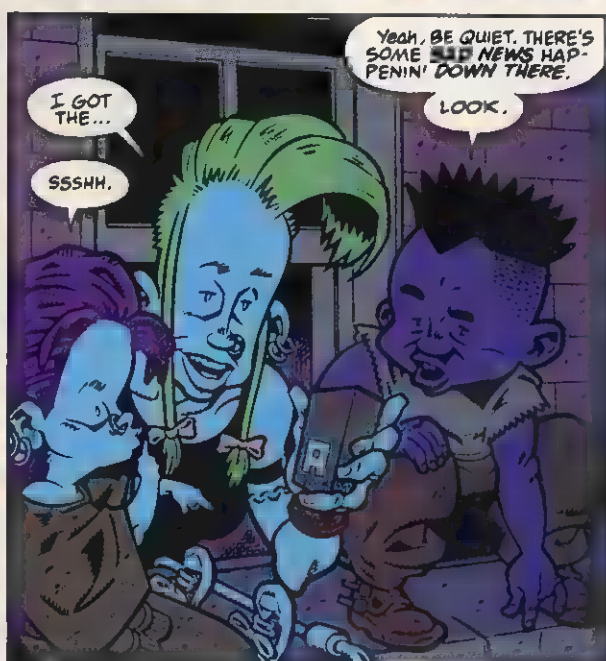
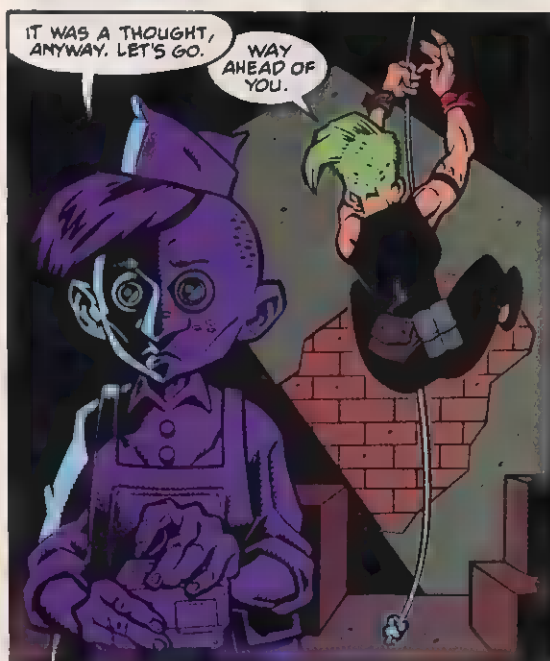
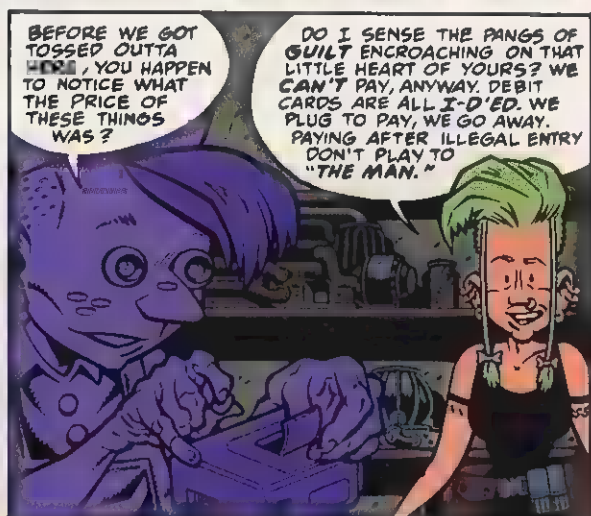
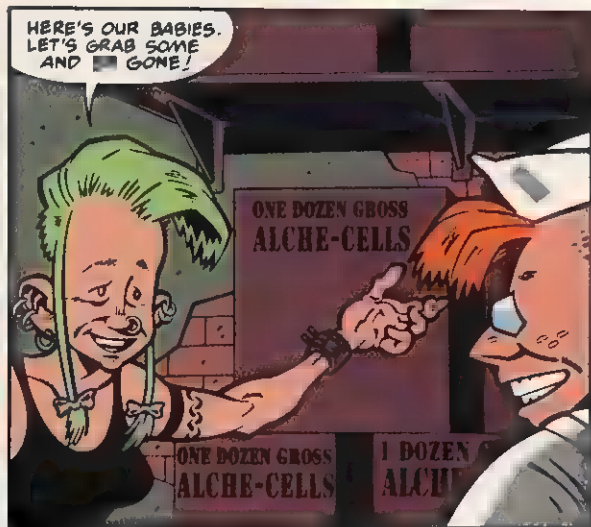
YEAH, YOU
WOULDN'T WANNA
LEAVE IT
UNATTENDED
TO...

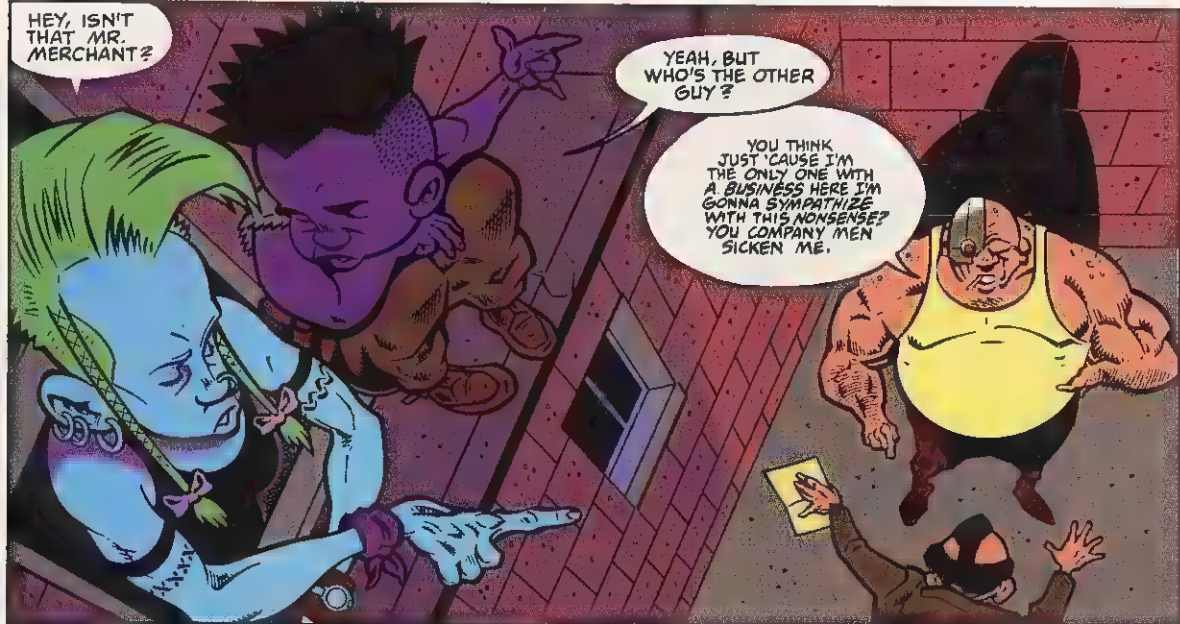
Jon
BABCOCK
Letterer

NOT IN
THIS BAD
NEIGHBORHOOD!

HOIST WITH HIS
OWN PETARD







HEY, ISN'T THAT MR. MERCHANT?

YEAH, BUT WHO'S THE OTHER GUY?

YOU THINK JUST 'CAUSE I'M THE ONLY ONE WITH A BUSINESS HERE I'M GONNA SYMPATHIZE WITH THIS NONSENSE? YOU COMPANY MEN SICKEN ME.

MINI-LENS-MIKE MIGHT HELP US FIND OUT!

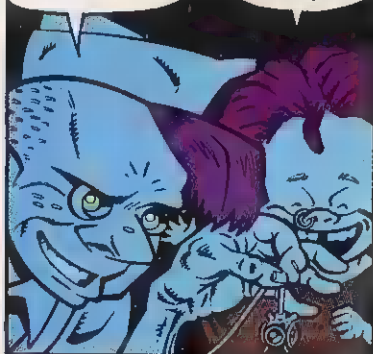
GOOD THINKING, NEDICK, LOWER AWAY.

BE REASONABLE, MERCHANT. WE'RE OFFERING YOU THE CHANCE TO RETIRE EARLY, THAT'S ALL.

YEAH, WITH A LOUSY STIPEND COURTESY OF ALCHEMAX. GO JUMP IN A WASTE HOLE.

ARE WE RECORDING THIS?

I'LL START NOW.



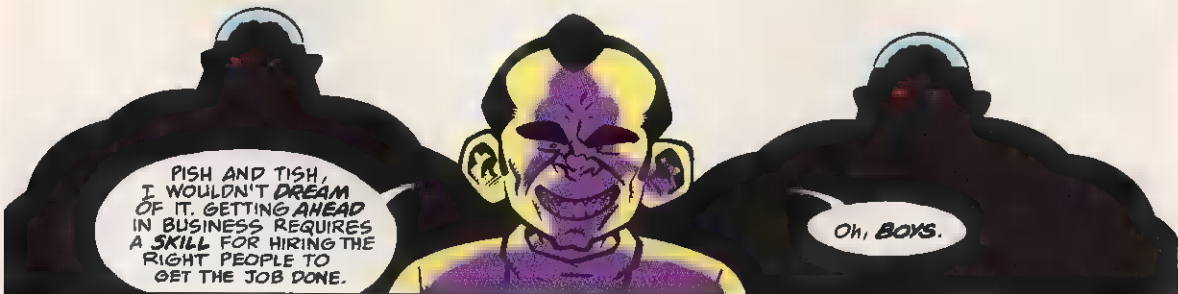
YOU'RE A STUPID MAN, MERCHANT. SMOKING THOSE THINGS IS BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH. IT MUST BE THAT ~~THE~~ HEAD OF YOURS. MAYBE IT NEEDS SOME ADJUSTING.

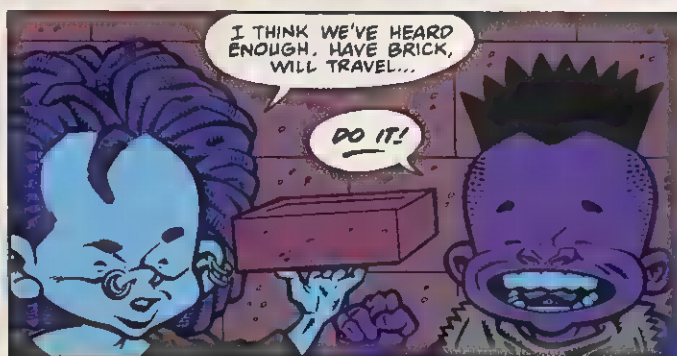
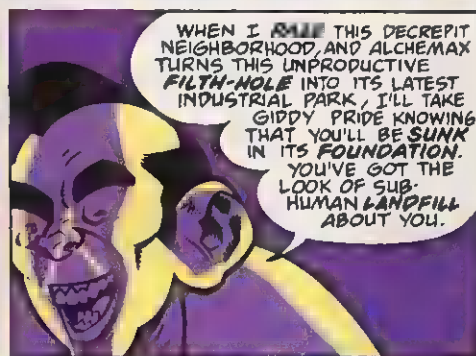
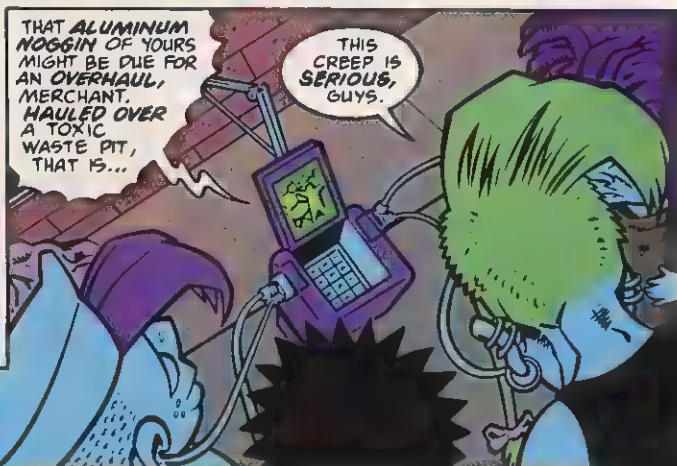
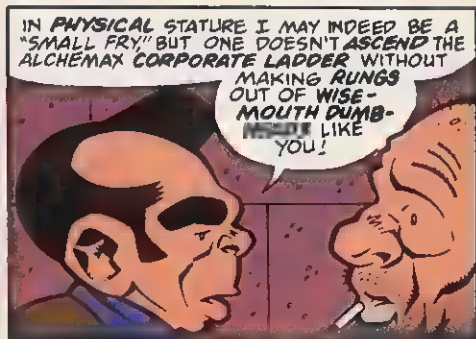
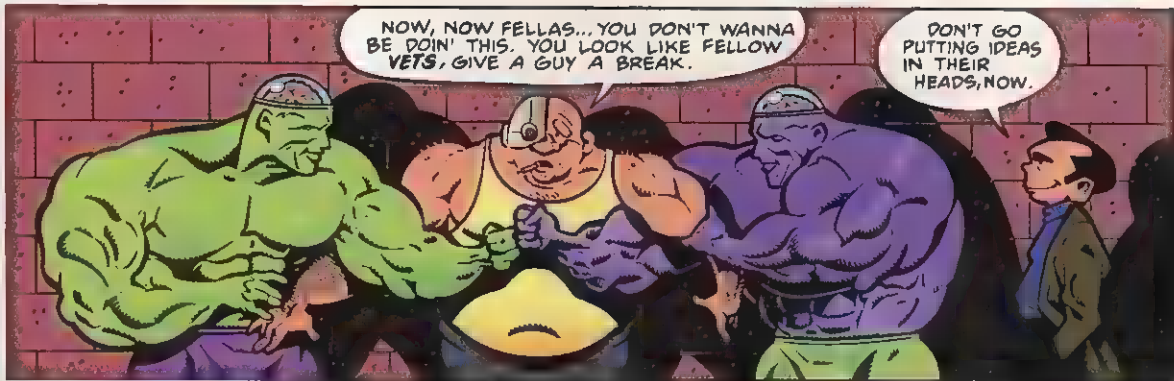
BIG TALK COMING FROM A SMALL FRY SUCH AS YOURSELF. IS THAT SOME KINDA THREAT?



PISH AND TISH, I WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT. GETTING AHEAD IN BUSINESS REQUIRES A SKILL FOR HIRING THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO GET THE JOB DONE.

OH, BOYS.





I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY WHERE I WAS GLAD TO DO MERCHANT A FAVOR.

FORGET MERCHANT! WHAT ABOUT THE STUFF THAT ALCHEMAX SLIMER WAS YAKKIN' ABOUT? THEY'RE GONNA BLAST THE 'HOOD, GUYS.

YEAH. OUR HOMES ARE CRUMMY ENOUGH STANDING, LET ALONE KNOCKED DOWN.

Er, right, MIDJ. Y'KNOW, METHINKS I'VE GOT A CUNNING PLAN.

CHUF

AS THE BARD WRIT, "FOR 'TIS THE SPORT TO HAVE THE ENGINEER HOIST WITH HIS OWN PETARD." WHAT SAY WE USE THIS RUINOUS EVIDENCE TO OUR ADVANTAGE?

AND SO...

MAN, IT'S FOR SURE STANKIN' DOWN HERE, YECCH!

NOTHING GETS PAST YOU, SLACKY.

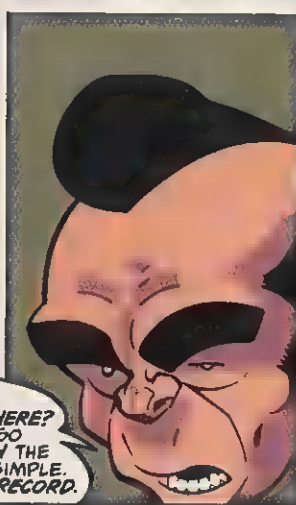
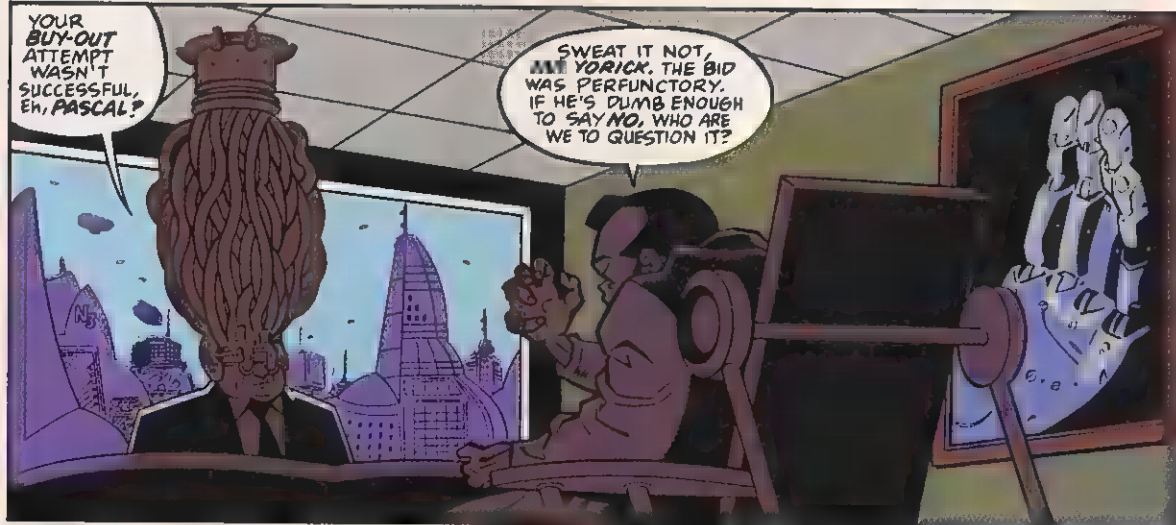
STOP KVETCHING, YOU TWO. WE'RE NOT DOWN HERE TO PICK DAFFODILS!

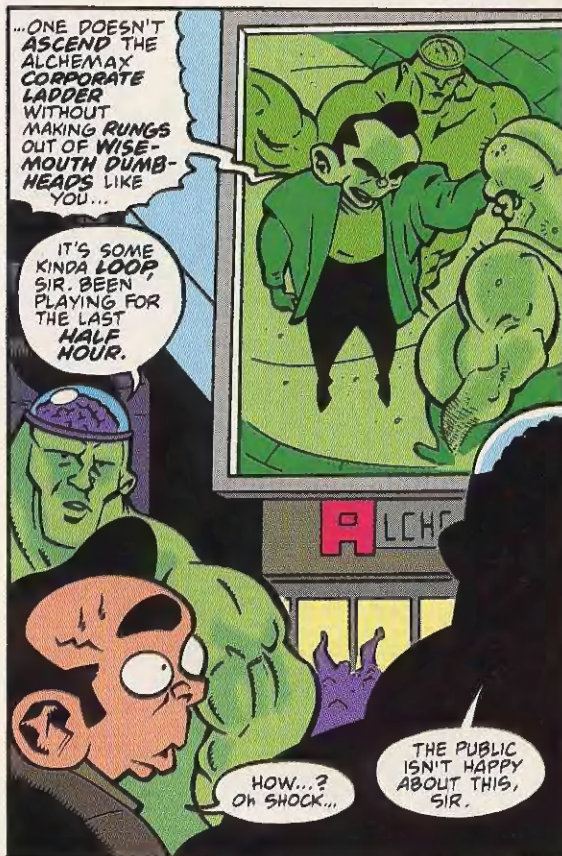
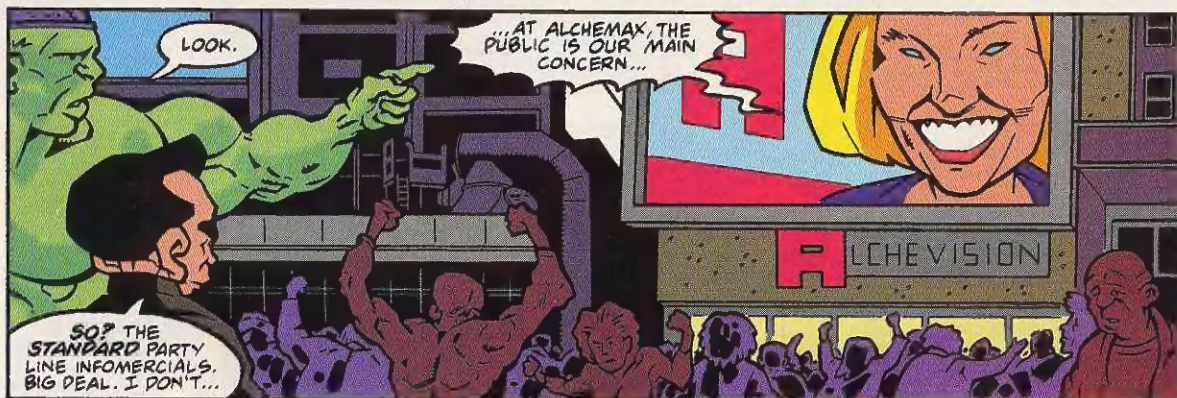
A MAIN-FEED LINK-UP FOR THE NEWSVERTISEMENT NET SHOULD BE NEAR HERE.

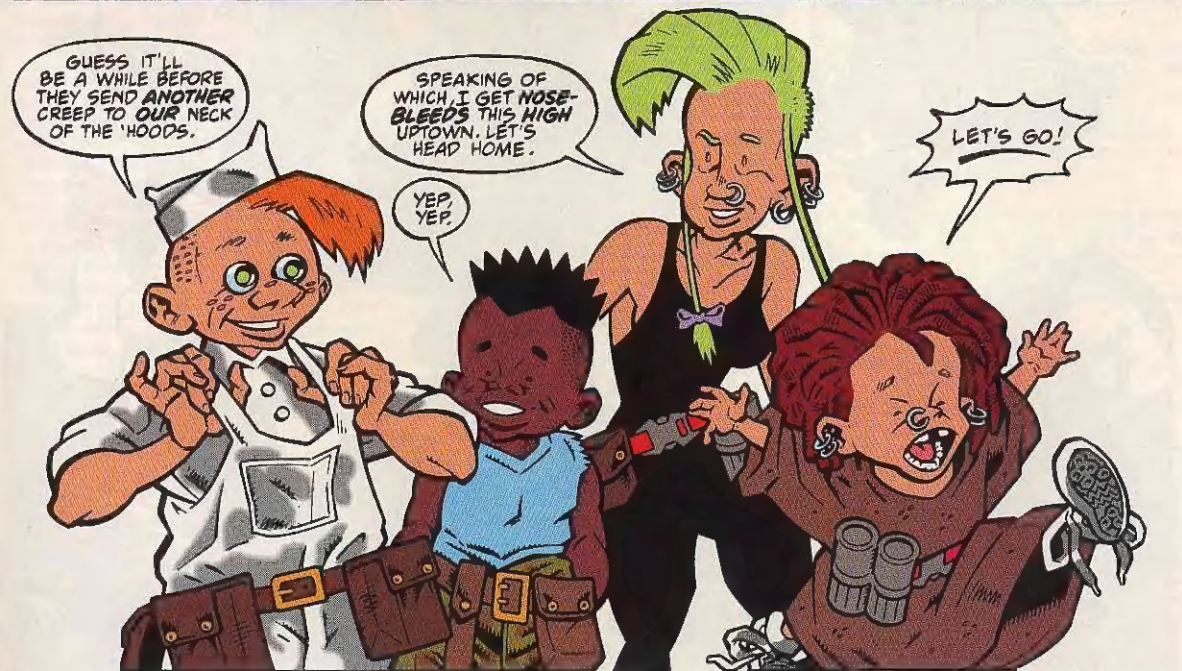
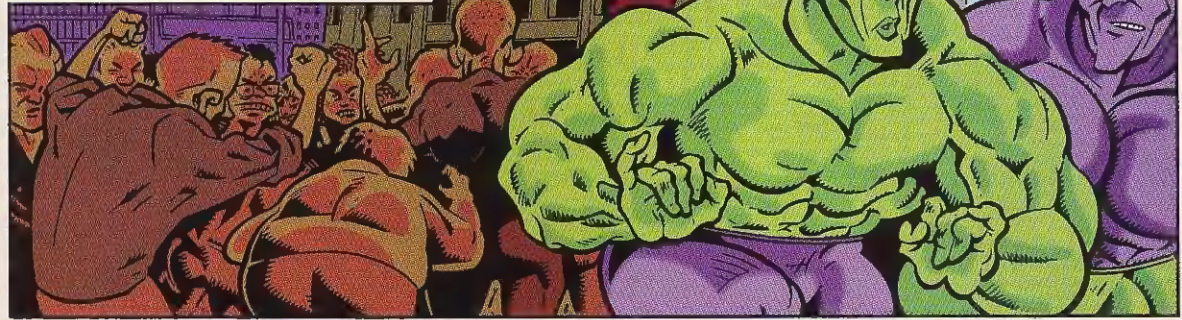
HOW DO YOU KNOW, NEDICK?

MY FATHER WAS A LINE-MAN FOR TELLINK TILL HE BECAME OBSOLETE.

BINGO! HERE'S OUR BABY!







YOU LITTLE
PUNKS **STOLE** THEM
CELLS FROM ME
AN' YOU EXPECT
GRATITUDE?
I OUGHTA...

A LITTLE
GRATITUDE
WOULD BE
NICE...

YEAH, JUST
A TINY
AMOUNT!

LOOKS LIKE
IF WE'RE GONNA
DO ANY MORE
GOOD DEEDS...

WE'D BETTER
JUST KEEP 'EM TO
OURSELVES!

END

UNLIMITED

JOEY CAVALIERI — Editor

MATTHEW MORRA — Assistant Editor

ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFORMATION UPON REQUEST.

Union Gap, WA 98903

Out of My Head

Did I actually quote Marshall McLuhan in last issue's editorial? What was I thinking? Could I be maybe just a tad more pretentious? Sheesh, let me know when I'm being affected next time, will you?

But the rest of the editorial still stands. We're gonna try some strange stuff in this book over the next year or so. Let us know what you like. We're kinda sorta considering giving the large green individual his own title. How does that sit with you? Does Spidey belong in this title? Should we switch off the regular characters, or not feature them at all? As always, you're the boss.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Bob Finger to these pages. *R GANG 2099* is pretty experimental in style and content. I also wanna thank Kyle Baker for giving Dwayne Turner an assist. Kyle's at work on a Duke Stratosphere solo story written by John Francis Moore, which, given our quarterly schedule and the number of future contributions by an eclectic mix of artists, should see print about the time I'm ready for Social Security.

Which should be by the time I hit the next issue box anyway.

Dear Joey,

Following tradition I will start off with this: GREAT BOOK! I love the artist/writer teams on all of the books and I look forward to getting them every month. I also greatly enjoyed 2099 UNLIMITED #1.

I have never written to any comic before even though I collect 15-20 books a month (a number which would be higher if inflation didn't affect my allowance). I just wanted to say that I don't agree with most of the letters that appear on the letters page giving suggestions about who the next hero or villain should be and when they should be revealed. I believe that if too many revised 1993 heroes and villains are brought into the picture, I and many other raving 2099 fans will tire of the entire 2099 idea.

How come 1993 heroes often come up in 2099 conversation? Naomi Soon-Li Torrijos-Washington thinks back to the "good old days" on page 47 of UNLIMITED #1. I don't remember much about 1893. How about you? What's up?

Nicholas Jenisch
107 Canaan Rd.
Stratford, NH 03825

You don't remember much about the 1800's? The guy who was president then has his picture on every penny...and he didn't even have any super powers! Actually, Nick, in 2099 there are no heroes (at least 'till recently) and people yearn for a time of icons like Spider-Man and Captain America who fought for justice and protected the innocent.

Dear Joey,

2099 UNLIMITED #1 was pretty decent. I

enjoyed the Spider-Man story even if it wasn't written by Peter David. I'm no stranger to Evan's writing. This story proves he can write just about any character and make the story interesting. However...

You know that hero/villain names are getting scarce when you have a character named Mutagen. You guys could have come up with a better name than that. Still he had an interesting origin and powers. I wouldn't mind seeing him again but you should consider giving him a better name.

I waited a long time to see the Hulk 2099 and I wasn't disappointed. He's a blast! His origin was a bit weak, however. It seems that anyone who assumes the mantle of an old hero must first encounter something concerning the hero in question. Jake Gallows finds Frank Castle's journal, Miguel reads about Spider-Man and now John Eisenhart hears tales of the Hulk from the cultists. It's a good thing nobody talks about Galactus anymore! But the origin was the only thing I didn't like about the new Hulk. Everything else was top-notch.

I think the UNLIMITED should be used to showcase and debut new characters into the 2099 universe. There's nothing wrong with featuring established characters, but they already have their own books. The old giant-sized issues were often the launching pads for new characters, and since the Unlimteds seem to have replaced them, why not continue the theme? Thanks for listening.

Joe Christiano
35 Coach Dr.
Waterbury, CT 06708

We couldn't agree with you more about 2099 UNLIMITED, Joe. In future issues we plan on bringing you more all-new characters!

Dear UNLIMITED,

I have a bit of information you Marvel people might like to discuss at your next 2099 meeting. You say the end of the "Heroic Age" ended at around the turn of the century. Correct? Well, I have just acquired AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #20 featuring the Iron Man of 2020. Now this is approximately twenty years after all the heroes disappeared. You've got some 'splainin' to do, Lucy!

Adam Boles
923 Andres Ave.
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Not necessarily, Adam. The 2099 books will iron out many of these so-called "continuity glitches" in the future.

Dear Makers of 2099,

I just read 2099 UNLIMITED #1 and loved it. Hulk 2099 is totally cool. I loved the artwork and the concept. I currently follow SPIDER-MAN 2099, RAVAGE 2099 and now 2099 UNLIMITED.

1) Will Hulk 2099 get his own series?
2) Will there be a She-Hulk or Spider-Woman in 2099?
3) Will Gambit be in the X-Men of 2099?

J. Dailey
407 W. Rome

1) See Joey's box above.

2) Nope.

3) No, X-MEN 2099 #1 out in August will have an all-new team of mutants.

Dear UNLIMITED,

Compliments on a job well done. 2099 UNLIMITED was the best 2099 that I've read.

1) If and when Mutagen comes back, will he be stronger and even more adapted than before?

2) In 1994 will all titles be changed to 2100?

3) Will Peter David be doing any 2099 UNLIMITED stories?

Well, until Spider-Man 2099 gets three more titles, make mine Marvel!

Dan Zakaluzny
95 Ranch Estates Rd.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

1) It could happen. Easily.

2) Nah, we like the way 2099 sounds.

3) Now that sounds even better! We'd love to get our favorite Spidey scribe in here but with his busy schedule...

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #12 Thanatos invades Alchemax! And a major new supporting character makes his debut! Hero? Villain? You tell us!

RAVAGE 2099 #11 Speaking of Alchemax, get a good glimpse of the guy who runs the whole shebang...the CEO himself! Plus, the new fearsome, feral Ravage!

DOOM 2099 #10 The lord of Latveria tries to establish a strategic foothold in the Wakanda of 2099, Xandra's homeland!

THE PUNISHER 2099 #9 The conclusion of "Love and Bullets!" Will Jake at last make a new life for himself?

X-MEN 2099 #1 By far the most requested title of the year! The year 2099, that is! What's it like to be a mutant a century from now? The answer will startle you!



NEXT ISSUE

Ahhhh, we gave away too much already!